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LD141320 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Minesweeping Maneuvers — Special Iranian naval units will start minesweeping maneuvers in Gulf waters 14 August, IRNA reported, citing an announcement by the commander of Iran's First Naval Zone. The Iranian naval commander said that if southern Gulf states, "especially the United Arab Emirates," respond favorably to Iran's offer to carry out minesweeping operations, its Navy will "immediately" begin clearing the mine-infested waters, according to IRNA. Meanwhile, Kamal Kharrazi, Iranian War Information Center president and general director of IRNA, said the United States is "trying to squeeze Iran into a corner" and declared that by flying its flags on Kuwaiti tankers and sending military vessels into the Gulf, the United States has made itself a "direct threat" to Iran, Ankara ANATOLIA noted. Kharrazi's remarks were made during a press conference in Ankara, where he is staying on a private visit.

PDRY Protest — The PDRY Foreign Ministry denounced the U.S. and Allied military presence in the Gulf and condemned the staging of "provocative" military maneuvers off its coasts, Aden radio reported.

SFRY Safeguards — The Yugoslav shipping company Jugolinija has told captains of its ships in Gulf waters to sail through the Strait of Hormuz only during daylight hours and to warn their crews to beware of mines, Belgrade TANJUG reported. The vessels will be placed on full alert during their passage through the Gulf, the report added.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi jets attacked and "completely destroyed" a surface-to-air missile battery in Tabriz 14 August, Voice of the Masses radio reported. Iraq also denied Iran's claim to have shot down four of its helicopters in the "Nasr-7" sector 13 August, INA reported. An Iraqi military communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio 13 August reported that residential areas of Qal'at Dizah

were shelled by Iranian long-range artillery. In Sardaht, Iraqi warplanes bombed three villages 13 August, resulting in several casualties, according to IRNA.

Tunisia

The recent spate of bombings in Tunisia's seaside resorts constitute a "serious warning" to Tunisian leaders and "their Western supporters," a Tehran radio commentary stated. The commentary said the Islamic movement in Tunisia has expanded and accused Tunisian leaders of trying "to prevent the continuation of the activities of the Islamic Republic of Iran in that country." Citing a statement by the Islamic Jihad of Tunisia, the commentary warned that the government's opponents will "continue the policy" of "delivering continuous blows" at "interests of the ruling class."

Libya-Chad

Libya has stepped up its air raids on northern Chad since the recapture of Aozou by Chadian forces, Ndjamena radio reported, adding that Libyan forces launched "bombing operations" against Aozou and Ounianga 12-13 August.

Afghanistan

An Antonov-26 transport plane en route to Khowst District from Kabul was shot down by a Stinger missile over Mangal Dara region 13 August, Kabul radio disclosed. The radio attributed the attack to "extremist elements" and noted that all 7 passengers and 5 crew members aboard were killed.

Jordan

King Husayn received Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, who handed the king a letter from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Amman radio reported. During the meeting Husayn reiterated Jordan's "unlimited support" for Iraq in the war with Iran. Before returning to Baghdad, 'Aziz noted his talks with Husayn were conducted in an atmosphere of "deep fraternity."

Emergency Arab League Meeting Reportedly Postponed
JN121103 Doha QNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Tunis, 12 Aug (QNA) — A QNA correspondent in Tunis has learned that the emergency meeting of the Arab League Council at the foreign ministerial level, scheduled to be convened on Saturday, has been postponed until 23 August. An informed Arab source told the QNA correspondent that the postponement came at the request of a number of member states which have official engagements on the previous date. It should be noted that this emergency meeting, which was called for by Tunis, will be devoted to discussion of developments in the Iraq-Iran war and its impact on Arab security. It is expected that the meeting of the Arab seven-member committee entrusted with the task of following developments of the war, which was scheduled to be held the day after tomorrow, Friday, will also be postponed.

To Convene 23 Aug

LD121235 Kuwait KUNA in English 1155 GMT 12 Aug 87

[By Jassem Mattar]

[Text] Tunis, Aug 12 (KUNA) — The Arab foreign ministers' extraordinary meeting slated for August 15 here was postponed

until August 23 to give more time for inter-Arab consultations and to ensure attendance of all Arab chief diplomats, KUNA learnt here Wednesday.

A diplomatic source here told KUNA that the meeting was put off upon request from Syria due to its Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar's preoccupation with the official state visit of President of the United Arab Emirates Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan to Syria in mid August.

A number of other Arab countries asked for delaying the meeting until August 23 due to various official engagements, the source noted.

He added that Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi held contacts with a number of Arab foreign ministers over this subject including Saudi chief diplomat and current chairman of the League's Ministerial Council, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad.

An agreement was reached on adjourning the meeting to ensure participation of Al-Shar' and the other Arab ministers, the source underlined.

FANT Communique Reports Libyan Air Raids 13 Aug
AB131346 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
 1335 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Communique No 68 issued by the FANT High Command on 13 August in Ndjamena]

[Text] Since our recapture of Aozou from enemy forces, the Libyan Air Force has stepped up its air attacks on localities in the nation's northern region. Aozou, the liberated martyr territory, has been bombarded since yesterday and part of the night from 12 to 13 August, when a section of the village was totally burned down. Similar bombing operations resumed this morning against Aozou and Ounianga.

At any rate, the FANT will assume their full responsibilities.

14 Aug Air Strikes Reported
AB141435 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
 1401 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Communique No 69 issued by the FANT High Command on 14 August in Ndjamena]

[Text] The Libyan invaders, who cannot prevail over the FANT's determination and heroism, intensively bombed the following areas throughout the night of 13 to 14 August until the following morning: Aozou, Bardai, Zouar, (?Oucita), Ounianga Kebir, and Ouadi Doum.

Libya, which is in disarray, (?wants to frustrate us) by resorting to wild and blind bombings. But there is nothing that can put a stop to the FANT's determination.

Radio Urges Libyans To Fight Al-Qadhdhafi Regime
AB132010 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
 1330 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] By occupying the Aozou Strip in 1973, Al-Qadhdhafi not only trampled upon the principle of the inviolability of borders, but also implicitly declared war on Chad. This war, which he is forced to conduct as he is now doing, only serves as an excuse, for his intentions and theory are now clear: His theory is that the Tibesti region is a natural extension of Libya. But this theory cannot serve as a legal argument to annex an independent nation. One could reverse this argument to say, for example, that Libya is a natural extension of Chad. But Chad has no expansionist or hegemonistic ambitions. Rather, Chad believes that neighborliness and historical ties can be the basis for strong, solid political and economic ties.

But the Libyan regime possesses a short memory; it forgets that relations between the two peoples were built through economic and cultural contacts, and above all, through Chadian support for Libya in its fight against foreign invaders. It forgets that Chad served as a place of refuge for the Libyan people at that time, and also served as the starting point for their struggle against foreign invaders.

But by an irony of fate and history, after having actively participated in Libya's liberation, Chadians today must fight for their own liberation and for their very survival, which have been endangered by a despotic Libyan regime. The Libyan people should, as a matter of urgency, put an end to this turnabout of history by using every means at their disposal to fight the Al-Qadhdhafi regime. The fight that the Chadian people are now waging should also be theirs. This is the only way to preserve the age-old ties between Chad and Libya. It is the only way to together accomplish greater things for the two people's well-being and greatness.

Assassination Attempt on Former Interior Minister
NC132023 Cairo MENA in English 2014 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, Aug. 13 (MENA) — Former Interior Minister al-Nabawi Isma'il escaped tonight an assassination attempt in his residence at Jami'at al-Duwal al-'Arabiyyah Street in Muhandisin area.

The former minister was seen standing in his house's balcony after the attempt.

Senior Interior Ministry officials, led by Assistant Interior Minister General Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Musa, moved to the incident place.

Interior Ministry Statement
NC140500 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 13 Aug (MENA) — The Interior Ministry issued a statement tonight on the attempted attack against Major General al-Nabawi Isma'il, former deputy prime minister and interior minister. The statement noted that two citizens who were at the scene of the incident were injured.

The following is the text of the statement:

At about 2100 today, four gunmen, one of them bearded, fired shots from a distance in the direction of the house of Maj Gen Muhammad al-Nabawi Isma'il, former deputy prime minister and interior minister. According to preliminary information, the gunmen were riding in a gray Fiat 128 on the left side of which the number 36 could be seen.

Siraj Ahmad Hasanayn, a taxi driver, and 'Ashur Muhammad Ahmad, a farmer, who were at the scene of the shooting, were injured.

Guards stationed in front of the Al-Nabawi Isma'il residence returned fire, but the perpetrators managed to escape in the direction of the Al-Muhandisin District [of Cairo].

Interior Minister Zaki Badr and other senior ministry officials, as well as experts from the criminal laboratory, went to the scene of the crime. The security services are making every effort to track down the perpetrators.

Sidqi Speaks With AL-AHRAM on Economy, IMF
NC140510 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2236 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 13 Aug (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi said that the decision to reach agreement with the IMF was 100-percent Egyptian. He added that Egypt and its government should be given credit for this decision, which confirms that the Egyptian economy is healthy and that the economic reform program is moving in the right direction. Sidqi made these remarks in an interview with *Al-Ahram*, which was conducted by Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi' and will appear in Friday's edition.

The prime minister also stated that in Egypt's exchanges with creditor countries, most of them have displayed a complete understanding of Egypt's situation. He referred in particular to Italy, Kuwait, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia, whose position he described as honorable and supportive.

The prime minister said that Egypt faces a stifling crisis in terms of foreign revenues. The solution, he added, lies in the state playing an active role in the foreign exchange market and influencing the dollar parity through the Central Bank consortium, with the aim of protecting [the price of] basic commodities.

Dr Sidqi asserted that the exchange rate will stabilize in January and February. After that, he said, Egyptians will be allowed to take \$2,000 with them when traveling abroad, as is the practice in other countries.

Concerning import licences, Dr Sidqi noted that importers are not being denied licences or credit facilities and he, the economy minister, and the Central Bank governor are willing to investigate any such complaints.

Regarding companies dealing with the investment of funds [sharikat tawzif al-amwal], Dr Sidqi said that Egypt has no objection to these enterprises per se, but they must be studied since most of their funds are deposited abroad. Studies show that the practice at most of these enterprises is to deposit capital, whether at home or abroad, in the personal accounts of the owners and not in the name of the firm, he stated. These companies need to reorganize and follow more sound business practices. Such companies, he continued, are requested to convert into share-holding entities with general assemblies to protect investors, for whom the state feels a certain responsibility.

On investment laws, Dr Sidqi said that a unified law encompassing all incentives will be promulgated soon, which, he pointed out, should make it easier for the investor to understand the regulations.

Speaking of the role of the private sector in development, the prime minister affirmed that the state firmly believes in the private sector's role, noting that President Husni Mubarak visits both public and private enterprises in his tours. Egypt, Dr Sidqi said, is opening the door wide to the private sector, seeking its participation in development and the creation of jobs.

Dr Sidqi noted that the private sector should increase its efforts on land reclamation to help eliminate food shortages. He also said that any problems in land reclamation should be resolved within 3 months to ensure that development in this sector can proceed unhindered.

Al-Qadhdhafi Reportedly Pays Opposition Group
NC130456 Cairo MENA in English 2250 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, Aug 12 (MENA) — Members of a delegation of the Egyptian opposition Socialist Labour Party are reported by a Cairo newspaper as having each received a certain amount of money from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi of Libya while on a recent visit to the neighbouring North African country. While breaking

the news in a leading article in tomorrow's *Al-Jumhuriyah*, Mahfuz al-Ansari, the paper's editor-in-chief, terms the act as a cheap act of earning money, as his article title says.

As made by the writer, the surprise disclosure carries details that:

-- Before the members of the said delegation returned to Cairo, someone had arrived earlier in the Egyptian capital, delegated by Al-Qadhdhafi to say that the colonel had given them money. The envoy fixed the actual amount given each.

-- "I am sad because they are Egyptian", President Husni Mubarak commented, when he was aware of the event.

Piecing together the story, after opening with a slang term denoting bitter criticism and disapproval, the article says:

-- In April last year, a delegation of the Labour Party went to Libya under its Chairman Ibrahim Shukri at a time when Colonel al-Qadhdhafi was exporting his cheap terrorist operations to the people of Egypt. This delegation gave itself the right to speak on behalf of the Egyptian people without having any mandate of any kind.

-- I (Al-Ansari) was imagining that Shukri and his companions learned the lesson after their return to Cairo when they found the extent of the Egyptian street's displeasure with their acts and attitudes, which were only expressing themselves alone.

-- However, the Labour Party sent another delegation several days ago to Libya, comprising some of the party's members and their wives. They all met with the "colonel", who used to attack Egypt and criticise everything happening in Egyptian territory. What is strange is that the members of the Labour Party's delegation sat listening to Al-Qadhdhafi's vituperative abuses without any of them trying to respond.

The article then poses a question:

-- How may the Egyptian Government deal with a head of state like Al-Qadhdhafi, who used to do a thing and its opposite simultaneously?

The problem is that we have known Al-Qadhdhafi as he really is.

He used to send emissaries to President Mubarak, calling for improving relations and reopening borders. On the following day, our security agencies would uncover terrorist elements recruited by Al-Qadhdhafi to sabotage our facilities.

In these days, for example, he sent to Cairo, asking for reopening the Libyan Interest Section. But who may guarantee Al-Qadhdhafi's acts and the type of people who will be working in this section to be sure that they will not turn it into a quarters of subversion and terrorism?

Giving another instance, the article reports Al-Qadhdhafi as having once asked President Mubarak to abrogate the Camp David Agreement, even after ten years.

The article, reporting on President Mubarak's response, says: Naturally, the president said to him (Al-Qadhdhafi): "The only one having the right to abrogate the agreement is the Egyptian people and no one else."

Electricity Minister on Nuclear Program, Plans NC121022 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 12 Aug (MENA) — Electricity Minister Eng Mahir Abaza has affirmed that Egypt will not begin implementing its nuclear program to generate power unless guarantees for nuclear safety are ensured.

He added that the Egyptian Government is awaiting a UN report in September assessing the situation after the incident at the Chernobyl reactor. Based on this report, he added, the Egyptian Government will either implement its program or postpone it for some time.

In an interview published today in the Egyptian magazine *Akhir Sa'ah*, the electricity minister said that the government, meanwhile, is preparing a study on the location of the proposed nuclear plant in the Al-Dab'ah area and on the possible establishment of a laboratory for processing nuclear fuel to be used in development efforts. He noted that there is a laboratory in this area for extracting uranium for research efforts by the Egyptian Authority for Nuclear Material to study and assess existing nuclear material in Egypt and the possible processing of these materials. [passage omitted]

Asked about the ministry's long-term projects, the electricity minister said that he had discussed with the Zairian electricity minister the implementation of a joint project utilizing Zairian rivers to generate power. The power output, he added, could be four times greater than that currently generated from the high dam. He pointed out that the project envisages the transfer of power exceeding Zairian needs to Egypt through Sudan via a special grid. This power, he added, could also be sold to the countries through which this grid passes. Eng Abaza noted that he has discussed with his Turkish counterpart the possibility of connecting Egypt by land with the European unified grid, going to Turkey through Syria. Through this system, he added, the Zairian line could be linked to the European line, thus providing European states with excess power generated in Zaire at inexpensive rates. Minister Abaza noted that several European states have agreed in principle to this idea. They have expressed willingness to provide the necessary financing to ensure the availability of power less expensive than that generated by nuclear plants by early next century.

Mirghani, Chadian Minister View Libyans in Darfur
EA132212 Khartoum SUNA in French 1600 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Aug (SUNA) — Today, President of the Supreme Council Mr Ahmed 'Ali Mirghani received Mr Adoum Moussa, Chadian minister of information — an emissary from President Hissain Habre of Chad.

In a statement to the press, the emissary from President Habre said that the purpose of his visit to Sudan was to discuss with Sudanese officials the presence of Libyan troops in Darfur Province, western Sudan. He added that the Sudanese officials had promised him that Sudan would not allow Libyan forces to launch attacks on his country from Sudanese territory.

The emissary also stressed that Sudan had declared that it is ready to cooperate with Chad in bringing peace and security to

the region. The Chadian minister denied that Chadian troops had entered Sudanese territory.

SPLA: 'Huge Quantity' of Ammunition Seized 1 Aug
EA131707 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Excerpt] A huge quantity of ammunition parachuted by enemy planes on 1 August 1987 missed its target and fell into SPLA hands. The ammunition had been intended for the besieged enemy garrison of Waat in Eastern Upper Nile, a Radio SPLA correspondent disclosed.

Enemy troops in Waat made no attempt to retrieve the misdropped cargo of ammunition, that was later seized by SPLA units operating in Akobo-Waat area under the overall command of Lieutenant Colonel Peter Panom Panypiny. [passage omitted]

Islamic Jihad Claims Responsibility for Bombings
NC102225 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
 2120 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] In a statement sent to a foreign news agency in Paris, the Islamic Jihad organization claimed responsibility for the explosions that rocked four hotels in Tunis last week. It should be recalled that 12 British, Italian, and Tunisian nationals were wounded in the explosions.

Envoy to UK Makes Statement on Security Measures
LD080146 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
 2200 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Within the framework of the information and media action decided on by President Habib Bourguiba, Mr Hamadi Khouni, Tunisian ambassador in London, summoned the British press and made a statement. In the wake of the recent events in a number of Tunisian hotels, and at the instructions of the supreme combatant, President Habib Bourguiba, the Tunisian Government has decided to strengthen security measures, especially at airports, hotels, beaches, on buses, and in public places, to guarantee safety and security in Tunisia.

He added that the aims of those who carry out these isolated and criminal acts are to damage Tunisia's higher interests, gains, and good reputation and to disturb the excellent relations between Tunisia and friendly countries. The Tunisian people, who strongly condemn these criminal acts are convinced that, under the farsighted leadership of the supreme combatant, it will succeed in preserving the stability of the republican regime and Tunisia's international reputation and credibility.

Joint Committee With Algeria Holds Meeting
LD061733 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
 1100 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Excerpt] The Tunisian-Algerian committee held a working meeting this morning in Monastir. The meeting dealt with fraternal relations between Tunisia and Algeria and between the two fraternal parties. The meeting also included consultations on new developments in the Arab Maghreb.

Taking part on the Tunisian side were Rachid Sfar, prime minister and secretary general of the Socialist Destourian Party; Amor Chedli, minister and chief of the prime minister's office; Slaheddine Baly, national defense minister; Hedi Mabrouk, foreign minister; Mansour Skhiri, minister of equipment, housing and transport; Abdelaziz Ben Dhis, director of the Socialist Destourian Party; Hedi Baccouche, minister of social affairs; Abderrazak Kefi, information minister; and Brahim Khouaja, communications minister.

On the Algerian side were Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, in charge of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat; El Hadi Khdiri, member of the Central Committee and interior minister; and Messaoud Ait Chalal, Algerian ambassador to Tunisia. [passage omitted]

Bourguiba Receives Messaadia
LD061729 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
 1100 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Excerpt] In Saganis today at noon, President Habib Bourguiba received Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, in charge of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, accompanied by El Hadi Khdiri, member of the Central Committee and Algerian interior minister, and Messaoud Ait Chalal, Algerian ambassador to Tunisia. [passage omitted]

BAHRAIN

Tehran Claims Pro-Iranian Protesters Fired Upon
NC141120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
 0430 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Grand demonstrations were held by the Muslim people of Bahrain to support the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance and condemn the massacre of pilgrims visiting the house of God at the hands of the U.S. Saudi regime. These Muslims were consigned to blood and dust by security officials of the Bahraini shaykhdom.

According to IRNA, the police of the Al Khalifah regime, which has been gripped with fear that returning Bahraini pilgrims will divulge details of the U.S. Saudi regime's crimes in the bloody Friday [31 July] incident in Mecca, opened fire on Muslim residents of Jamrah and Al Diraz. These residents were marching to declare their hatred and abomination of the instruments of the massacre at the house of God. Some demonstrators were also wounded by the gunfire.

KUWAIT

Minister Protests Tehran Embassy Attack to UN
LD130901 Kuwait KUNA in English 0818 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] United Nations, Aug 13 (KUNA) — Kuwait Wednesday [12 August] informed the international community of the recent "acts of sabotage" against the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran by elements of the Iranian revolutionary and associates of some other parties.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah said these acts were "incompatible with every principle of international law and contrary to civilized norms."

The foreign minister's statement was contained in a letter addressed to [UN] Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The incidents occurred August 1 when Iranian demonstrators shouting "revenge" surrounded the Kuwaiti Embassy to protest the deaths in Saudi Arabia of more than 400 people a day earlier in Saudi Arabia where Iranian pilgrims clashed with Saudi Police.

Dearar Razzuqi, the Kuwaiti envoy, who met with the secretary-general to present Shaykh Sabah's letter, told KUNA the U.N. chief executive expressed "concern" over these developments.

In the past, the secretary-general has repeatedly condemned attacks on diplomats and diplomatic missions as illegal under international conventions.

The Kuwaiti letter details the incidents that occurred during the demonstration, including the arrest of two Kuwaiti officials, the setting on fire of the Kuwaiti flag over the Kuwaiti Embassy and its replacement by the Iranian flag, and the looting of the ambassador's car.

These "irresponsible acts" took place not only without any interference from the Iranian authorities but under the "blessing and abetment" of the authority responsible for the protection of an embassy, Shaykh Sabah said.

The Kuwaiti official told the secretary-general that despite Kuwaiti demands for adequate explanations of these acts, the Iranian authorities have not responded.

"Kuwait registers its strong rejection of those practices, condemns them with considerable despicability, and reiterates the protests it previously expressed to Iran, including that for violating the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations which Iran itself had ratified in 1965, to say nothing of the incompatibility of those above-mentioned practices and acts with the simplest rules of international relations and conduct," he said.

Shaykh Sabah warned Kuwait holds Iran "fully responsible, legally, morally and materially, for what happened, and reserves the right to make decisions that are consistent with her sovereignty and legitimate rights."

Somali Deputy Premier Arrives on Private Visit
LD101907 Kuwait KUNA in English 1724 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 10 (KUNA) — Somali Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Ahmed Sulayman, Monday [10 August] arrived here on a private visit to Kuwait in response to an invitation from Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir.

Sulayman was received by director of the Kuwaiti Deputy Premier's Office 'Abdallah Sayyed al-Abdal Razak and officials of the Somali Embassy in Kuwait.

Meets With Shaykh Sabah
LD121425 Kuwait KUNA in English 1335 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 12 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir Wednesday [12 August] conferred with the Somali deputy premier and interior minister, Brigadier Ahmed Sulayman.

During the meeting, the Somali official expressed his country's solidarity with Kuwait in confronting threats.

He told reporters after the meeting that his private visit aimed at "affirming Somalia's solidarity with Kuwait and friendly countries which are attacked and threatened by Iran."

On his part, Shaykh Sabah told reporters that the Somali stance is not new as it (Somalia) always stood beside justice and right and added that he conferred with Brigadier Sulayman as a friend.

The Somali official, who arrived here from Saudi Arabia where he performed hajj, said that he expressed to the Saudi officials Somalia's solidarity in confronting riot that was caused by the Iranian pilgrims.

He asserted that Somalia will attend the forthcoming extraordinary meeting of the Arab foreign ministers that will be held August 23.

On whether a solution to the Somali-Ethiopian problem will be at the expense of the Eritrean cause, he explained that his country supports the Eritrean problem and added that Somalia was the first country to recognize the Eritrean people's problem.

Concerning problems facing the Horn of Africa and the Somali-Ethiopian relations, Brigadier Sulayman expressed hope for solving standing problems through dialogue which is currently underway between his country and its neighbours.

He said there is coordination between Somalia, Sudan and Eritrea concerning the region's problems.

The Somali official attended a luncheon held in his honour by Shaykh Sabah.

Foreign Minister Meets PLO's Hani al-Hasan
LD130758 Kuwait KUNA in English 1218 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 12 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Wednesday [12 August] met with political adviser to the PLO chairman, Hani al-Hasan.

Shaykh Sabah told reporters that Al-Hasan explained outcome of his contacts with officials in Egypt and Jordan and PLO's relations with both sisterly countries in addition to developments in the Palestinian arena.

PDRY

Ministry Denounces U.S., Allied Naval Presence
LD132000 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry made the following statement to ANA this morning:

The PDRY has followed with deep concern successive reports concerning the increasing military presence of the United States and its allies in the Gulf area, the Indian Ocean, and the Gulf of Aden. The escalation of these military buildups, the intensification of the presence of combat fleets, and the staging of military and provocative maneuvers in various areas — the Gulf of Aden region among them — clearly confirm the gravity of the aggressive designs being implemented by the United States and its allies in the Arab region. These are aimed at restoring the United States' and its allies' influence and hegemony over the region, plundering its peoples' resources, striking at the Arab national liberation movement and its nationalist and progressive regimes, and at threatening security and peace by creating further centers of tension and kindling additional conflagrations and wars in the region.

Democratic Yemen, sensing the danger threatening the sovereignty, stability, and security of the Arab nation's peoples and

the entire region, and, at the same time appreciating the perils of this imperialist military presence, confirms its denunciation and condemnation of the military maneuvers being held off its coast and its territorial waters in the Gulf of Aden. It asks its sisters in the region and our Arab peoples and all forces eager to establish regional security and stability to raise their voices to condemn these hostile military moves and buildups.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Defense Minister Meets With Kuwaiti Envoy
LD112044 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1049 GMT 11 Aug 87

[Text] Dubai, 11 Aug (KUNA) — Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum, UAE minister of defense, met with Muhammad Sa'ud ibn al-Lami', Kuwaiti ambassador to the UAE, before noon.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed a number of issues of concern to both countries, particularly new regional developments.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Talks Held With Soviet Foreign Ministry Official
JN111420 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Aug 87

[Text] Brother Ahmad al-Iryani, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry, today received Dr Viktor Posuvalyuk, deputy chief of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs Near East and North Africa Department. The two officials discussed bilateral ties and exchanged views on the Iraq-Iran war as well as current efforts to convene an international Middle East peace conference.

This morning an official round of talks was held between delegations of the YAR and USSR Foreign Ministries. Brother Khalid al-Adisi, head of the Foreign Ministry International Department, led the YAR delegation, while Dr Posuvalyuk led the Soviet team. They exchanged views on issues concerning the agenda of the upcoming UN General Assembly session.

Soviet Makes Statement, Leaves
JN121418 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Dr Viktor Posuvalyuk, deputy chief of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs Near East and North Africa Department, departed Sanaa today following a 2-day visit to our country.

In a statement to *Saba' News Agency*, the Soviet official pointed out that during his visit to our country, he discussed with our officials a number of issues concerning bilateral relations between the two countries and the agenda of the upcoming UN General Assembly session. He referred to the two countries' identical viewpoints on vital issues, primarily the Iraq-Iran war, the Middle East problem, and disarmament. He affirmed that our country's voice is heard in international forums and hailed

the YAR's stands supporting public interest in peace and stability.

In conclusion, he expressed his pleasure with our country's celebration of the 25th anniversary of the eternal 26 September Revolution, which coincides with the Soviet people's celebration of the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution.

The Soviet official was seen off by Ghalib al-'Addus, head of the Foreign Ministry International Department, and Veniamin Popov, the Soviet ambassador to Sanaa.

Tariq 'Aziz Letter to UN Requests Action on Iran
JN131845 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
 1710 GMT 13 Aug 87

["Text" of letter from Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, dated 10 August 1987]

[Text] His Excellency Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general.

I am honored to inform Your Excellency that since the UN Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution No 598 on 20 July 1987, Iranian forces have perpetrated the following armed aggressions against Iraq:

On 20 July, two armed aggressions against the southern Majnun oil field and another armed aggression against the Iraqi coast in the Al-Hawizah marshes.

On 21 July, a three-pronged armed aggression against the southern Majnun oilfield.

On 22 July, an armed aggression against Iraq's Al-'Amiq Port.

On 26 July, an armed aggression against Iraq's Al-'Amiq Port.

On 3 August, an armed aggression against Iraq's Al-'Amiq Port.

On 4 August, an armed aggression against Iraq's Al-'Amiq Port.

On 5 August, an armed aggression against the Qal'at Dizah area.

On 6 August, an armed aggression against the Qal'at Dizah area.

On 7 August, an armed aggression against the Chuwartah area.

On 7 August, an armed aggression against the southern Majnun oil field.

In addition to these above-mentioned armed aggressions, the Iranian Armed Forces shelled the following purely residential areas during the same period:

On 20 July, Basra city — one person injured.

On 22 July, Basra city — one person injured.

On 23 July, (Bimalik) housing complex in Qal'at Dizah — seven persons were injured, including three women, and a number of houses were damaged.

On 24 July, Basra city — a number of houses were damaged.

On 27 July, Qal'at Dizah — seven persons killed and five were injured.

On 27 July, (Qazanyah) — two persons were injured and a number of houses were damaged.

On 29 July, Basra.

On 29 July, Basra during the night.

On 31 July, Khawr al-Zubayr.

On 1 August, (Bimalik) housing complex in Qal'at Dizah — one person was killed and nine were injured; a number of houses were demolished.

On 3 August, Basra — a number of houses were damaged.

On 5 August, Qal'at Dizah — two persons were injured and a number of houses were damaged.

On 7 August, Basra.

Your Excellency must be aware, as must members of the United Nations, particularly the Security Council, that Iranian Government officials at various levels, who according to international law represent the Iranian Government in its international relations, have in various media declared their refusal to abide by Security Council Resolution No 598 for 1987. They have also continued their armed aggression against Iraq. This constitutes definite proof of the continuation of Iran's war of aggression against Iraq. It additionally makes it incumbent on your Excellency and the UN Security Council members to define the consequences of this aggression's continuation in light of the provisions of Security Council Resolution No 598 for 1987, which are binding in accordance with the UN Charter.

The Iraqi Government, which welcomed this resolution and expressed its full readiness to meet all the commitments defined by its provisions, affirms on this occasion that the delay in drawing the clear conclusions as defined in the resolution's provisions will grant the recalcitrant Iranian Government permission to continue its war of aggression against Iraq despite the unanimously approved resolution's binding provisions.

The Iraqi Government, which sincerely seeks peace and which has so far exercised the highest possible degree of self-restraint, must use all means available to it to protect the nation's security and safety and to spare the lives of Iraqi citizens. This is in accordance with international law concerning legitimate self-defense.

The Iraqi Government expects Your Excellency and the Security Council to assume this responsibility immediately in accordance with the UN Charter and to implement provisions of UN Security Council Resolution No 598 for 1987.

With my due respect,

[Signed] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq

Dated 10 August 1987

Further Reportage of Gulf War Battlefield Actions

4 Helicopter Downings Denied

JN131616 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1553 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Aug (INA) — Iraq has denied Iran's claims of having downed four Iraqi helicopters this morning. In a statement to INA a short while ago, an Iraqi military spokesman declared that all Iraqi aircraft carrying out their missions today returned safely to base.

Challenging the Iranian rulers to prove their claims, the spokesman commented that the Iranian regime makes unrealistic allegations to draw their peoples' attention away from their tragic situation and to draw world public opinion away from the basic topic the Iranian regime cannot face; namely, mankind's unanimous agreement on the need to achieve peace. He explained that the Iranian rulers' daily claims of downing aircraft and destroying brigades collectively indicates a mentality suffering from the disease of lying.

Communique No 2,776 Issued

JN131650 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,776 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 13 August 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious forces have continued their heroic struggle, inflicting new losses on the aggressors with the following combat operations last night and today:

1. The aircraft of our bold Air Force carried out 57 combat missions against enemy concentrations, weapon emplacements, and vehicles, inflicting further losses on the enemy. Our aircraft then returned safely to base, praise be to God.
2. The courageous helicopter gunship knights carried out 46 combat missions, inflicting death on the scoundrels and destruction on their equipment and positions. Our knights then returned safely to base in God's care.
3. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, two machine-guns, two observation posts, a large vehicle, and an infantry position were destroyed. In another area of this sector, one of our patrols found five Kalashnikov rifles that the enemy had abandoned in previous battles.
4. An enemy tank and a vehicle carrying personnel were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.
5. Four enemy soldiers were killed and an ammunition dump was detonated in the I Army Corps northern sector.
6. An ammunition dump was detonated in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.
7. An ammunition dump was destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

8. Ridding themselves of the repression and terrorism of the Tehran rulers, a number of Iranian military men sought refuge with our forward units. They were then safely evacuated to rear lines.

9. Using long-range artillery, the unjust clique shelled the (Bimalik) residential complex in the village of Qal'at Dizah. One woman was wounded by this shelling.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 August 1987

Tabriz Missile Battery Raided

JN140936 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0918 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement, dated 14 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Air Force challenged the enemy's air defenses deep inside enemy territory once again today. Our heroic Air Force hawks penetrated deep inside Iran and reached the Tabriz area in Iran's northernmost region at 0850 [0450 GMT].

Our hawks dealt a devastating blow to a surface-to-air missile battery of the variety the Zionist agents had delivered to the Iranian regime. After completely destroying this battery, our hawks and their aircraft returned to the homeland safely and triumphantly, God be praised.

[Dated] 14 August 1987

President Views Gulf Conflict, Mecca Incidents

JN111949 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 11 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Aug (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has affirmed that Muslims, Arabs, and the entire world possess legitimate justifications for launching a war against Khomeyni. Khomeyni distorts Islam and threatens Arabs and their security, sanctity, and property, as well as world peace and international law.

Presenting medals of valor to a number of the naval force's heroes, President Saddam Husayn pointed out that the Islamic world, the Arabs, and the entire world now possess these legitimate justifications since Khomeyni is threatening international norms. The prolonged war has exposed the Iranian rulers for what they are to everyone in the world. It has proven that they are aggressive and expansionist and that they distort Islam and hate Arabism.

President Saddam Husayn also pointed out that statements by Iranian political and media leaders that they are fighting the United States and world colonialism in addition to Iraq signal their defeat by steadfast Iraq. He added that Iran's rulers find it difficult to admit that their aggression against Iraq has failed. Therefore, the president said, these rulers have begun to divert the battles in other directions; such behavior is additional proof of their aggressiveness.

The president stated that the entire world knows Iran commits aggression not only against Iraq, but also against Bahrain, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait, and interferes in the domestic affairs of all Islamic countries without exception. He noted that even some opportunistic officials in Islamic countries who deal with politics in a commercial way know that Iran interferes in their domestic affairs. The president added that Iran commits aggression against France, the Soviet Union, and the United States.

The president also affirmed that Iran's aggressiveness is well known to the entire world. Iran's Air Force attacked Kuwaiti oil installations while the Iranian regime attempted to kill the Kuwaiti amir, interfered in Bahrain's domestic affairs, and sought to topple the Bahraini regime. He added: Iran also attacked the UAE's oil installations, as well as the tankers of Gulf countries, without announcing these attacks for political considerations. Iran is daily threatening to occupy Kuwait. It has also attacked Saudi oil tankers and raided targets in Saudi Arabia, which downed an Iranian aircraft.

President Saddam Husayn stated that Iran has committed military aggression against all Gulf countries, including Iraq. He pointed out that Iran attacked a Soviet oil tanker and the French Embassy, planted mines in the Gulf's international shipping routes, and damaged ships of various nationalities, including U.S. vessels.

The president stressed the need to strike these empty heads with all available weapons and without any hesitation. Heads such as these deserve to be crushed. He also stressed that an Iranian occupation of Iraq is impossible, for Iraq is prepared to fight years for every inch of territory.

President Saddam Husayn noted that Zionism has always supported and sometimes even provided guidance to Iran. Zionist officials, he added, are shamelessly claiming: Even if Iraq emerges from the war without Iran having achieved a victory, this would still mean a victory for Iraq since it is defending its homeland. Suspending the conflict without Iran having attained a victory would mean that Iraq is victorious. Such a situation would constitute a great danger to the security of so-called Israel.

His excellency affirmed that the Zionists have become a protective base, an information base, and a supply base for Iran.

The president then referred to UN Security Council Resolution No 598 concerning the Iraq-Iran war and said that Iraq welcomed this resolution as a single package. He also expressed Iraq's readiness to cooperate in the resolution's implementation with goodwill and without hesitation if Iran approved it.

The president affirmed: The day when the Iranians view this resolution as an objective will come. The resolution will be an objective of their diplomacy and they will strive to implement it with goodwill. Not now perhaps, but this day will come.

His excellency then addressed the riots originated by the Iranian regime's mercenaries in holy Mecca, stating: This incident has revealed to the Islamic world that even when the Iranian rulers claim that they possess a religion, it is not the Islamic religion.

The president added: You have seen the film that our Saudi brothers transmitted via satellite, a film that was screened on Baghdad television. These Iranian anarchists did not go to Mecca for the pilgrimage; they went as evil men and saboteurs. They have nothing to do with Islam or any other heavenly religion.

The president then viewed Khomeyni's evil deeds against the Islamic religion, declaring: Khomeyni sent a message to the Iranian pilgrims calling on them to perform new pilgrimage rituals known as "disavowals." This is the Iranian rulers' new religion.

The president added: When the Iranian rulers claim that they wish to liberate Mecca from the Saudis, they actually mean wresting Mecca from Muslims' hands so that they can introduce new rituals and establish a new religion, one that includes "disavowals."

The president pointed out that the pilgrimage rituals are well known. They were inherited from our lord Ibrahim and our lord Muhammad. They are well-known, and they did not include "disavowals," photographs of Khomeyni, and slogan-shouting.

The president also discussed Khomeyni's hostility toward the Arabs, noting: Whoever hates the Arabs cannot be a Muslim because it is the Arabs who are the origin of Islam and other heavenly religions.

The president referred to the Iraqi Navy's heroism during battles with the Iranian Navy. He declared that he closely follows this heroism, whether by the Naval Air Force, the forces defending Al-Amiq Port, or the other supporting forces.

The president asserted the Iraqi Navy's combat capability and noted that the Navy men fight well when given the opportunity.

Addressing the Navy men, the president said: You have taken the initiative and carried out operations on the high seas beyond your vessel's technical capabilities; these operations are indicative of the Navy's high spirit and morale.

AL-TADAMUN Interviews Prime Minister Ramadan
PM121415 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic
8 Aug 87 pp 7-9

[Interview with First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan by Ahmad 'Abd al-Majid in Baghdad; date not given]

[Excerpts] *Al-Tadamun*: What has your recent visit to the Soviet Union achieved economically, politically, and militarily? Also, have you signed a new friendship and cooperation treaty with Moscow similar to that of 1972?

Ramadan: The friendship treaty with the Soviet Union is automatically extended and renewed when it expires if both parties do not oppose this. As for the Moscow visit, I can say that it was part of a series of visits, which in recent years have become regular, that seek to discuss cooperation between the two countries in all economic, technical, and political fields. These visits are now assuming a greater scope, especially following President

Saddam Husayn's visit to Moscow in 1985, the positive talks held with Soviet leader Gorbachev, and agreement on the need to develop cooperation in further fields. I exemplified this with my 1986 visit to Moscow, where we signed a 5-year economic cooperation agreement that was the result of positive talks held at the summit level.

As for this year's visit, it sought to reach agreement on the details of the clauses in the 1987 cooperation treaty in order to realize the ambitions of both countries. At the same time, the visit was an opportunity for serious political discussions, especially concerning the war, with Andrey Gromyko, who clearly noted the Soviet stand toward the conflict and the USSR's support for efforts aimed at attaining peace and for the decisive collective resolution adopted by the Security Council. Therefore, the visit was positive and was a step along the road to establishing Soviet-Iraqi relations on the basis of equality and common interests and enhancing mutual trust. [passage omitted]

Al-Tadamun: How would you analyze Japan's position toward the war and Resolution No 598 adopted by the Security Council? Also, do you believe that Japan is aligned with Iran?

Ramadan: There are some states, including Japan and European countries, that view the Iraq-Iran conflict in an opportunist way to serve their own interests. They claim to be neutral so that they can maintain good and equal relations with both parties and achieve better results, whether with regard to their companies' sales or in other areas and channels, following the war's conclusion. Due to the attitude of Iran's rulers and their deviation from the rules of international relations, however, this approach regrettably drives some states into "dilemmas" that one could consider as alignment with Iran. One thus believes that these states are not serious in their proposals for peace. Any balanced, positive, or normal dealings with the Iranian rulers make them feel internationally acceptable. Consequently, they continue their hostile line. We warned long ago that any normal dealings with these rulers would encourage and prompt them to continue their aggression. This is the dilemma that Japan and other states have fallen into. I am not saying that they are aligned with Iran, but I would state that their attitude has harmed the line calling for peace and the line calling for a response to Tehran. Anyhow, the issuing of Resolution No 598 expresses international unanimity on the need to comprehensively end the war. It completely reflects the international community's conviction towards Iraq's peaceful position. [passage omitted]

Al-Tadamun: You announced that Iraq will boycott any company that does not fulfill its obligations to Iraq during the war and that this boycott will continue even after the conflict. Does this decision still stand?

Ramadan: I do not believe that anything new has occurred to make us change our minds about linking our dealings with companies and states after the war to their attitudes toward us under the present circumstances. This is a fixed approach that cannot be altered. The war and the position toward the war is an issue that concerns every Iraqi citizen and every Iraqi family. Every family has a martyr, a handicapped member, or a prisoner. Every family that has participated in defending the homeland is concerned to know which side supports Iraq in its steadfastness.

Therefore, we believe that such a request or position is natural and that the leadership should apply it directly to quarters that adopt one position or the other toward Iraq to serve common interests and to guarantee our rights.

Al-Tadamun: How do you assess Kuwait's position toward the conflict, especially after recent developments and in view of the statements made by Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, in which he saluted Iraq's position, its peace initiatives, and acceptance of the Security Council's resolution?

Ramadan: I have nothing further to add in this regard since we are proud of Kuwait's position, whether on the part of the amir, heir apparent, government, or people, toward the war in which Iraq is engaged. I believe that every Kuwaiti citizen and every Kuwaiti official now feels that he is with Iraq, not on one line but in one trench, in confrontation against Iranian aggression. This is not because Kuwait is geographically located next to Iraq or close to Basra; it is not because the Kuwaiti people and the Iraqi people are brothers; and it is not because Iran's rulers are daily launching threats claiming that Kuwait is their next target. No, but these factors indeed, together with others, do prompt Kuwait — with its national leadership, amir, heir apparent, government, and noble Arab people — to support truth and defend the homeland. By homeland I mean the Arab land, whether in Iraq or Kuwait.

Al-Tadamun: The incident of the downing of a Syrian MIG-21 aircraft on 27 July raised many questions. Among them was: What was the objective of this act and was it the first, or was it preceded by other acts? And how do you view reports on the efforts being made to eliminate differences with Damascus?

Ramadan: The military spokesman has discussed this incident. It was also discussed by the Iraqi press. As for how and why, our assessment of the Syrian ruler has not changed despite what has been reported with regard to efforts being made to clear the atmosphere and the possibility of a change in Syria's position.

Our assessment of this ruler and this regime has never changed: an agent and suspect ruler who is extremely hostile to the Arab nation and its interests and future. The attitude of this man, historically and to date, reflects the fact that he was raised on treason, spite, and hatred and as a struggler against all values and ethics. Thus we stated that any change we hear of is nothing but a tactical maneuver that does not reflect this man's true intentions or readiness to reconsider his conduct and attitude. He is not young, and what he has done in the political field is not simple. What he did 7 years ago — namely, contacting and allying himself with Iran's rulers — clearly expresses his premeditated intentions, the depth of treason within him, and the minute details of his thinking. We discovered that he had provided the Iranian enemy with every means and every resource available to enable him to occupy Iraq and slaughter its sons. On many occasions he has announced that he stands with Tehran's rulers and that Iraq is the aggressor. He officially signed statements with the rulers of Iran and Libya in his capital of Damascus with a view to toppling the regime in Iraq. He also actively worked toward utilizing all middlemen, as well as his resources with some states, to purchase arms for Iran. He worked towards cutting

Iraq's economic artery, thus violating all international conventions and practices, as well as pan-Arab relations. Extending the Iraqi oil pipeline through Syrian territory was carried out under an international agreement. One party's breach of the agreement proved that it was ready to bear all losses in order to serve Iran's rulers. The ruler of Damascus was also and still is the bridge over which Iran's agents reach Lebanon so that they, along with their agents in Lebanon, can participate in slaughtering the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. He prepared Syria's land and airports in 1981 and 1982, in the war's early years, to strike an Iraqi airbase near the western province. As is known, one of the Syrian pilots who carried out these operations was arrested and admitted how Syrian airspace was prepared for such actions.

Therefore, we do not find it unusual that the Syrian MIG-21 aircraft entered [Iraqi airspace] and approached a strategic industrial complex. Certainly it was not the first act of aggression, whether in the air, on land, or otherwise.

Al-Tadamun: How do you assess Iraqi-U.S. relations at present? Also, do you believe U.S. diplomatic efforts to end the Gulf war are serious?

Ramadan: It is unacceptable for us to discuss the heart of the policy of one country or another. We as a state deal with states' foreign policies and act both practically and objectively on the basis of the policy pursued. We find that the United States has recently dealt with the issue of the war, specifically since the international dialogue began, to reach a formula and consolidate a serious collective resolution to end the conflict. Pending the issuance of a Security Council resolution, the United States,

according to its officials, has acted with a seriousness that we appreciate. This is what appears to be the situation on the surface. I do not believe that it is of any interest to discuss what is going on behind the scenes. [passage omitted]

Minister Tariq 'Aziz Returns From Arab Tour 13 Aug
JN131706 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1556 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Aug (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned here this afternoon following the conclusion of his tour of a number of Arab countries.

During this tour, Tariq 'Aziz conveyed messages from President Saddam Husayn to Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, amir of Kuwait; King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques and king of Saudi Arabia; 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the YAR; and His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The foreign minister also held talks with the Kuwaiti, Saudi, YAR, and Jordanian foreign ministers on the current regional situation. Other matters discussed included topics on the agenda of the extraordinary Arab League Council's meeting, soon to be held at the foreign ministerial level in Tunis, as well as developments concerning UN Security Council Resolution No 598 of 1987.

U.S. Pressure Over Lavi Causes 'Dissatisfaction'

TA140505 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will propose a continuation of the Lavi project at the government session next Sunday. Meanwhile, senior governmental elements have expressed reservations about the pressure being exerted on Lavi supporters by the U.S. Embassy in Israel in an effort to make them change their minds. Our economic affairs correspondent Me'ir Einstein is in the studio:

The prime minister's opinion is firm and unchangeable. Next Sunday the government will apparently be asked to vote on two proposals: One is the proposal by the defense minister and the finance minister calling for the cancellation of the project; and the second, to continue with the Lavi, will be presented by the prime minister. It is still unclear whether the ministers will be asked to vote on the proposals separately or if the proposals will be raised together, each against the other. This issue will be decided by the prime minister.

Shamir's proposal is primarily based on the Israel Aircraft Industries plan to cut the project's expenses. However, his proposal also mentions other sources meant to ensure the necessary funds for the development and production of the plane — among other things, a further cut in the ministries' budgets. As far as we know, however, the prime minister is not going to propose a special loan or higher taxes for raising the money to save the Lavi.

Meanwhile, senior governmental elements who support the project have expressed dissatisfaction with what they define as energetic activity by U.S. Embassy people in Israel among ministers who are known to support the Lavi. Arthur Hughes, the deputy chief of mission, met with Minister Pat yesterday on this issue. He briefed him on the U.S. position, which calls for the cancellation of the Lavi. The Americans have also contacted other ministers.

Beilin: U.S. Drive 'Legitimate'

TA140539 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Telephone interview with Yosi Beilin, Foreign Ministry political director general, by program moderator David Grossman — live]

[Text][Grossman] Good morning to you, Yosi Beilin.

[Beilin] Good morning.

[Grossman] I want to ask you about the U.S. intervention, the overt and covert pressure being exerted by that country. What do you know about the U.S. activity in Israel against the [Lavi] project?

[Beilin] The truth is that the last thing was indeed the message conveyed by the deputy chief of mission to several ministers in Israel. I do not think that this is an irregular action, and it is not a precedent. Occasionally there are such things; there is an

American attempt to influence. In my opinion this is certainly within what is legitimate in bilateral relations.

[Grossman] Is it legitimate to summon ministers, express the U.S. opinion, and exert pressure on them?

[Beilin] What is the meaning of the expression "to exert pressure?" If you say your opinion is such and such, and you ask that it be taken into consideration, then in my view this is not an exertion of pressure, as long as you do not add any element of a sanction or threat. Here we have no such element. Therefore, I do not think it is correct to call it pressure; it is an attempt to influence. As you know very well, we too sometimes try to influence U.S. decisions, and this is also acceptable.

[Grossman] Do you think the American financing of the project gives them the right to act in this issue?

[Beilin] Very much so. After all, the Americans are not intervening here in religious legislation. We are talking about a huge national project that so far has been done with U.S. financing and with its actual cooperation. The cost of this project is much greater than originally planned, and it will have great ramifications on our future relations with the United States. This is not a matter that is irrelevant to bilateral relations. Therefore, I believe this involvement is not unreasonable.

[Grossman] You will not protest this?

[Beilin] There is no room for a protest in our relations, and there is no room for a protest in the wake of this message.

[Grossman] Thank you, Yosi Beilin.

Policy Undermines Peres Position

TA131549 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 13 Aug 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The Straying Positions"]

[Text] News agencies have carried reports to the effect that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will not visit the area unless he feels that such a visit would advance the peace process in the region. These reports are circulating at a time when the chances for convening an international peace conference have become very slim.

Up to this very day the United States has not declared a specific position with regard to what it considers appropriate for advancing the peace process. Sometimes statements are issued by the U.S. Administration hinting at the possibility of U.S. consent for convening an international conference. Other times U.S. statements are made opposing the concept of convening such a conference. The U.S. position is thus characterized by inconsistency and a lack of clarity. Several days ago a statement was issued by the State Department affirming U.S. commitment to the principle of direct negotiations. The statement added that due to lack of alternatives to peace, the possibility of convening an international conference that would act as an umbrella to advance the peace process must be explored.

These straying and ambiguous positions affirm the unwillingness of the United States to interfere in the ongoing dispute between Shim'on Peres, the Labor Party leader and Israel's foreign minister, and Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud leader and prime minister. While Peres agrees to the convening of an international conference as an opening to direct negotiations, Shamir rejects any international framework, fearing the possibility that solutions would be imposed by the superpowers.

Without doubt the policy of anticipation and expectation pursued by the United States has undermined Shim'on Peres' position. Loss of time and the approaching U.S. elections mean the elimination of all chances for convening the international conference and, consequently, wasting the opportunity of advancing the peace process and thwarting the efforts being exerted on regional and international levels to establish a comprehensive, durable, and just peace that ensures the rights of all parties to the conflict.

Foreign Minister Peres Announces Support for Lavi
TA140613 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, has stated that in his opinion we should continue the Lavi project. He made this announcement to a delegation of the United Jewish Appeal from Britain. Mr Peres said that we should lower the standard of living in Israel and use the money for the Lavi project. This has been reported by our correspondent Dick Winter.

With Peres' public announcement of his support for the Lavi, the number of ministers who have still not stated their decision are three: Ya'aqov Tzur, Gad Ya'aqobi, and Yitzhak Peretz. Attempts to convince the undecided ministers are continuing.

The vote is expected to take place in the government next Sunday. Prime Minister Shamir will propose a continuation of the project. His proposal does not call for a special loan or for higher taxes to finance the Lavi.

Nisim-Rabin Document Based on Termination of Lavi
TA131009 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Aug 87 p 1

["Document: The Nisim-Rabin Proposal: Instead of the 'Lavi' — The 'IDF Alternative'"] — *Ha'arets* headline]

[Text] The following are the clauses of the decision by Finance Minister Nisim and Defence Minister Rabin with regard to the Lavi:

— The government is deciding to discontinue the development and manufacture of the Lavi plane.

— The Defense Ministry will submit to the government a detailed proposal for the implementation of most of what is known as the "IDF alternative." This proposal will be based on the financial resources that will accumulate due to the cancellation of the Lavi project.

— The budget slated for defense out of the total state budget will not be decreased in the wake of the cancellation of the Lavi project.

— A joint Defense Ministry and Finance Ministry team will be established. Its duty will be to handle the ramifications stemming from terminating contracts in order to minimize the costs of ending the project.

— A joint Defense Ministry, Finance Ministry, and Labor and Social Welfare Ministry team will be established. Its duty will be to handle the employment angle by training employees for new jobs, finding temporary alternative employment for the Lavi project workers, and dealing with the compensation issue.

— The Defense Ministry will see to it that the total funds allotted to Israel Aircraft Industries in 1987 [as published] will not be less than that allotted to it in shekels during the present fiscal year.

AL-NAHAR Urges U.S. To Take New Peace Approach
TA131604 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic
13 Aug 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Washington and the New Challenge"]

[Text] It is no longer a secret that the visit to Israel by Charles Hill, assistant to the U.S. Secretary of State, was undertaken against the background of talks held between Yitzhak Shamir and George Shultz in Washington, the same talks that achieved relative progress in the Israeli position toward the future of the occupied territories.

During their discussions in Washington, the Israeli prime minister committed himself, before the secretary of state, to offer regional concessions that would enable the Arab side to come forward toward a peaceful solution. Apparently the State Department had received information indicating that the prime minister had backed down from his commitment to Secretary Shultz.

Washington, which is proposing to Israel military and political guarantees to ensure progress in the peace efforts, should undertake a new initiative — one that would convince the Arabs of the seriousness of the U.S. concern to achieve a peaceful solution in the Middle East.

We have stated, are stating, and will continue to state that the degree of seriousness of U.S. concern for achieving a just peace in the region is the one thing that will determine the fate of the peace efforts. Only the U.S. Administration is in a position to exert influence on the Israeli side. On the other hand, the U.S. Administration cannot claim that the Arab position toward the issue of peace is not positive. The Arabs have declared that they are ready to negotiate in an international conference with the aim of exchanging land for peace, because they are convinced peace is the path for achieving prosperity in the region.

We believe that the new U.S. approach should be based on the need to attain peace in the region. Israel is in need of peace, and without peace Israel will remain a burden on U.S. foreign policy.

It is needless to say that the continued absence of a political settlement represents an opportunity for complicating matters in the Middle East and for the appearance of new factors that will be difficult to deal with. This is the real challenge facing U.S. policy. Washington should choose between the achievement of peace and justice in the Middle East and the transformation of the region into a circle flaring with political upheavals and fanatical religious feelings.

Commentary Criticizes Shamir Obscurity on Conference
TA141046 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
 14 Aug 87 p B1

[Commentary by A. Schweitzer: "The Frustration Involved in Milking a Goat"]

[Text] It seems as though the Americans have after all followed the advice of certain Israeli commentators and turned to the local "strong man," Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. The subject of this contact is the peace process. Those commentators the Americans have listened to maintain that Shamir formed his rejection of the international conference because he was offended by the preference given to his rival, Foreign Minister Peres, as the sole interlocutor on this issue. It has now transpired — and not for the first time — that Mr Shamir is more serious than his interpreters: He rejected even the personal appeal of Secretary of State Shultz, made through the latter's confidant Charlie Hill. It is reasonable to assume that he would have refused even if the secretary of state himself had appealed personally, or even the U.S. President. At least two reasons can be offered here: As far as Shamir is concerned, the integrity of Eretz Yisra'el is a matter of deep conviction. He also believes that the United States cannot exert firm pressure on Israel now that the administration is entering its last year and is preparing for elections. Even though he gained nothing for the country for which he is supposed to work, he earned the reputation of a "strong man."

Apparently the prime minister's assessment of the Americans' ability to pressure Israel at this point is correct. The U.S. Administration is busy dealing with the main issue of U.S. foreign relations — the relations with the Soviet Union. Moreover, the western sector of the Middle East does not raise particular worries these days. Foreign Minister Peres believes that the United States cannot maintain its position in this part of the world without striving to advance the peace process. Perhaps he is right in the long run. However, the United States can afford to take a time-out, and when is a better time than now to do so. It is foolish, however, to think that this time-out will last forever. It can be claimed that the prime minister is not interested in eternity, except when he uses this expression as a cliché in speeches on Israel's sovereignty over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Shamir is not a young man and his camp is on the eve of elections, which will not necessarily extend his mandate beyond 1988. In any case, this consideration holds true for every politician: Whatever happens to his successor is his successor's problem. If Reagan's administration, which has been by far the most comfortable for Israel, is followed by an administration that finds it necessary to be harder on Israel, then the francophile Shamir will use the saying attributed to Louis XV of France: After me, the deluge.

Here we have an almost certain opportunity of using this aphorism again. First, Shimon Peres, together with King Husayn, created an opening that deserves to be called historic. Moreover, the international constellation, especially its U.S.-Soviet constituent, favors a solution to problems on the basis of agreements between the superpowers. As wars seem to be less and less of a reasonable means for solving disputes between nations, the diplomatic arena has been left as the only one in which events will unfold. Repeating the word "no" like a parrot will not do in this arena.

Some people will ask: What can the United States achieve by exerting pressure? I would suggest that these people not push their luck too far, because they might get a personal taste of what it means to live under pressure. If the United States found it suitable, it could decrease — not stop, only decrease — the political, security, and economic aid it gives Israel so generously at present. If this happens, the Israeli leaders — this noun should be used in quotation marks — will return to their natural size, which is very small. To judge by the events anticipated for 1989 and after, Israel faces two alternatives: to be forced to withdraw from its stand, or to broaden its dictionary beyond the single word "no."

Foreign Minister Peres and his more intelligent friends can read the map; his proposal to launch immediate dialogue with the Arabs testifies to this. Some people claim he is hurrying because he wants to be prime minister again. Perhaps personal ambition is a motive in deciding his moves. However — and only ignorant muses will disagree with this — with politicians, just as with military men and businessmen, it is not the motives that matter but the results. The Israeli voters can prevent Peres from proving that his is the best path to follow in the present circumstances. Those voters who prefer the short-sightedness of Shamir and his likes will, however, suffer even more than Peres.

Charlie Hill has left Israel on his way to Washington: He will tell Shultz that even he has been unable to milk the goat. Apparently Shultz will not be too excited by this information; Israel does not worry him too much nowadays (except for the expected financial demands if it is decided to continue with the Lavi). Israel will not be able to escape the next administration, which will hand it the bill of the U.S. disappointment with an ally that has forgotten the difference between independent power and borrowed power. Shamir's muscular nyct is effective for only 1 hour. On the superpowers' clock in Washington this hour amounts to no more than a minute.

Police Disperse Demonstrators Near U.S. Consulate
TA131118 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
 1100 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Police used force and tear gas to disperse a demonstration held in East Jerusalem by members of an international summer camp held under the auspices of Bir Zayt University. The demonstrators crowded near the U.S. Consulate, protesting a search held at the camp and the detention of one of its members, a resident of Gaza.

The police claim that the demonstration was illegal. Six of the demonstrators were detained; two of them were hospitalized.

A U.S. researcher who witnessed the demonstration told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that one of the detainees was beaten on the head and lost a lot of blood, even though he did not resist arrest.

The U.S. Consulate is currently checking whether there are any American citizens among the detainees.

Spokesman on Egyptian Anti-Shamir Caricature
TA131222 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
13 Aug 87 p 4

[Report by Smadar Peri and Roni Shaqad]

[Text] In the wake of Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid's report on his working talks in Jerusalem on the international conference issue, a new campaign of slander against Israel has been launched in the Egyptian media. The reason: Prime Minister Shamir's stubborn opposition to the international conference.

The peak of this hostility was reflected in a caricature published in the *Rose al-Yusuf* weekly in which Prime Minister Shamir appears dressed in a Nazi uniform. The note "Shamir in the occupied land" appeared on the prime minister's shirt, and an Israeli soldier who looks as though he were taken from the caricatures of the *Sturmer* paper is seen holding onto Shamir's picture. The line under the caricature reads: "An oil painting was discovered — a self-portrait painted by Hitler."

In reaction to this caricature, Yosef Ahime'ir, the prime minister's spokesman, yesterday said that the Prime Minister's Office hopes that this is a particularly isolated case and that the editors of the Egyptian weekly must understand that in so describing Shamir they show contempt for the entire people of Israel and not only for the prime minister or his party.

Gaza Lawyers Kept From Leaving for Jordan, Egypt
TA131217 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 13 Aug 87 p 1

[Report from the south by Dani Tzidqoni]

[Text] The Civilian Administration is preventing two Gaza attorneys, Ibrahim Abu Sittah and Zuhayr al-Ra'is, both of whom belong in the first ranks of political leadership in the Gaza Strip, from leaving for Jordan or Egypt.

Abu Sittah, who is a refugee originally from the Beersheba area, is head of a body which calls itself "the Organization of Palestinian Refugees" (Irgun Haplitim Hapalestini). During the Egyptian era in the area, he was one of the leaders of the "Falastin" government which was active in Gaza.

Zuhayr al-Ra'is, one of the composers of the Palestinian charter, is said to have Nasiristic views. He is involved in editing and managing papers (*Al-Fajr*, *Al-Ulum*) in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

In answer to my question as to why the exit of the two had been forbidden, Shmuel Goren, coordinator of government activities in the territories, said that these two people, in addition to several other Gaza residents with a similar fate, "know full well why they have not been permitted to travel."

Interior Ministry Orders Closure of Nazareth Paper
TA140816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] The Interior Ministry has issued a closure order against the Arabic-language weekly *Al-Jamahir*, published in Nazareth, because of the ultra-nationalistic stands expressed by the editors. This was done after the editors had already been summoned to the Northern District commissioner, who warned them to change their tune. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar notes that this is the first time in many years that such an order has been issued against an Arab newspaper in the region of Nazareth.

King Husayn Reportedly To Visit Syria, Iraq, Egypt
JN130728 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0700 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Aug (WAKH) — In today's edition, *Al-Itihad al-Ushb'i* stated that Jordan's King Husayn will begin a shuttle tour of a number of Arab countries within the next few days. The newspaper quoted a senior Jordanian source as saying that the tour will include Damascus, Baghdad, and Cairo in coordination with Saudi Arabia to prepare the climate for an Arab consensus on convening the postponed Arab summit. The tour will also be aimed at bringing views closer on a number of Arab countries' stands on convening the summit and important topics on its agenda.

Iraqi Foreign Minister 'Aziz Arrives 12 Aug
JN121202 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1626 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Amman, 12 Aug (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, President Saddam Husayn's envoy, Iraqi deputy prime minister, and foreign minister, arrived in Amman today on a brief visit to Jordan as part of a tour of a number of Arab countries.

Tariq 'Aziz has visited Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the YAR.

'Aziz expressed happiness at visiting fraternal Jordan as an envoy from President Saddam Husayn to his brother, His Majesty King Husayn.

In a press statement at the airport, 'Aziz declared: President Saddam Husayn has entrusted me with conveying his sincere brotherly greetings to His Majesty King Husayn as well as his great appreciation for the stands of His Majesty King Husayn and Jordan — both its government and people — in supporting Iraq's just cause of defending its sovereignty, security, and dignity.

'Aziz added: His excellency entrusted me with conveying to his majesty our assessment of the current situation and regional developments as well as effective measures that should be taken to confront the challenges engulfing the Arab nation and particularly the countries of the region.

He indicated that his tour of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the YAR comes within this context.

Meets With Foreign Minister
JN131046 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Tahir al-Masri, foreign minister, and Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, held a meeting at the Foreign Ministry this morning. They reviewed the current Arab situation, particularly recent developments in the Arab Gulf region in terms of the Iraq-Iran war and Iran's escalating and constant threats to the states of the region. The two ministers also reviewed the diplomatic and political steps for which contacts and consultations are being conducted among Arab countries. These diplomatic and political steps are being prepared to crystallize as

effective, unified Arab stand in the face of increasing threats to the security of the Arab nation.

Received by King Husayn, Departs
JN131628 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn at Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon received Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Tariq 'Aziz then conveyed to his majesty a letter from his brother, Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq.

During the meeting, His Majesty King Husayn reiterated Jordan's unlimited support for fraternal Iraq in its just war against Iran as well as Jordan's backing for current international efforts to bring an end to this destructive war.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Zayd al-Rifa'i, the prime minister; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Court; Tahir al-Masri, foreign minister; and the head of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry Arab Department.

Tariq 'Aziz departed Amman this afternoon. In a predeparture statement to the *Petra-Jordanian News Agency*, 'Aziz said he conveyed to His Majesty King Husayn a message from his brother, Saddam Husayn, expressing the president's appreciation of Jordan's support for the just Iraqi cause. He noted he briefed his majesty on the regional situation, the threats facing the Arab nation, and Iraqi views on methods of effecting Arab solidarity and taking a unified Arab position to face these threats.

He was seen off at Amman airport by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, a number of officials, and the Iraqi charge d'affaires to Amman.

Saudi Foreign Minister Meets King Husayn, Departs
JN121640 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, who conveyed a message to his majesty the king from his brother, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques. This message concerned the current regional situation.

This came as part of the continuous consultations and coordination between the leaderships of the two fraternal countries. The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; Zayd al-Rifa'i, prime minister; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; 'Adnan abu 'Awdah, court minister; Army chief Field Marshal Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir; Tahir al-Masri, foreign minister; and the Saudi ambassador to Amman.

His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal departed Amman this afternoon after being seen off at Amman airport by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, a number of officials, and the Saudi ambassador to Amman.

Egyptian Cabinet Minister Makes Statement, Departs
JN121616 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Following his meeting with His Majesty King Husayn, Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of state for cabinet affairs and administrative development in the Arab Republic of Egypt, stated that the message he conveyed to His Majesty King Husayn from His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak concerned the current regional situation, especially in the Arab Gulf region, and Iran's recent acts of sedition in holy Mecca.

Before departing Amman today, 'Ubayd told PETRA-JNA that the message, which is part of consultations and coordination between His Majesty King Husayn and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, stresses the need to promote Islamic solidarity and to confront the dangers threatening the Arab nation. He added that King Husayn asked him to convey his greetings to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. King Husayn also requested him to convey his majesty's appreciation to President Mubarak for both the latter's positions and his call for convening an emergency Islamic summit to confront regional events. Dr 'Ubayd was seen off at Amman airport by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd and a number of officials.

Newspaper Cited on Attempts To Release Waite
JN140853 Doha QNA in Arabic 0845 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Aug (QNA) — Press reports here today said that a deal is under way to release the Anglican Church's envoy, Terry Waite, in exchange for a ransom of \$5 million to his kidnappers in Beirut.

Citing a ranking party source in Beirut, the Abu Dhabi paper *Al-Itihad* says that PSP leader Walid Junblatt is playing a major role in the contacts to reach an agreement between the British Government and parties that are closely related to the kidnappers.

Fadlallah on Saudi 'Crime' in Mecca, Consequences
LD131254 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] 'Allamah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, one of the outstanding Muslim clerics of Lebanon, last night, on his return from the hajj pilgrimage, stated: The horrible crime of the Saudi regime in Mecca was a great mistake by this regime.

Describing the way the crime was committed, he said: The participants in the march of disavowal, the pilgrims in the buildings around the march zone, and the local people witnessed the heavy and nonstop firing by the Saudi regime's secret police and security forces against the pilgrims to the holy house of God, and they confirm this view.

Stressing the fact that the Saudi authorities had given prior consent to the holding of the march of disavowal, Shaykh Fadlallah added: According to a preplanned program, the regime of the house of Al Sa'ud embarked on this crime, but it has committed the biggest mistake of its history. The more time

passes, the more the results and grave consequences of this action will be revealed.

Palestinians, Syrians Clash at Burj al-Barajinah
NC140543 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] In a new development involving the camps battlefield, clashes occurred at 2200 last night along the Burj al-Barajinah combat line between Palestinians and Syrian forces stationed in the camp vicinity. The clashes, in which machineguns and rockets were used, left one person dead and another wounded.

In another development, a Palestinian source has stated that Amal Movement members broke into the homes of Palestinians in the Sports City area, arresting dozens living in the Sa'id Ghawwah camp and beating a number of others. This prompted several Palestinians to leave their homes in panic.

The source appealed to Arab and international organizations to end Amal's siege of the Palestinian camps immediately and save the residents from a worsening social tragedy.

Israeli Vehicle Attacked; Casualties Reported
NC140615 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] The Islamic Resistance Front issued a statement last night saying it had ambushed at 2030 last night an enemy patrol on the Al-Khardali-Dayr Mimis road. When an enemy vehicle carrying seven Israelis approached the ambush point, the resistance stragglers showered it with rockets and machinegun fire. The vehicle was put out of commission and its passengers either killed or wounded. Shortly afterward, Israeli helicopters, Merkava tanks, and armored personnel carriers rushed to the scene and conducted searches.

Interview With Chief of Staff on Forces' Role
PM111045 Damascus AL-BATH in Arabic 30 Jul 87 p 3

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Hikmat al-Shihabi by unidentified correspondent; place, date not given]

[Excerpts][Introductory passage omitted]

[Al-Ba'ath] On 1 August our people will celebrate the 42d anniversary of the establishment of the Syrian Arab Army. Could you talk to us about the Armed Forces' readiness and the stage they have reached in terms of training, preparation, and armament?

[Al-Shihabi] The 42d anniversary of the establishment of our Syrian Arab Army is an important occasion which embodies our pride in our ideological (al-'aqa'idi) Army and the standard the Armed Forces have reached with respect to advancement, preparedness, and permanent readiness to enter into the nation's war against its enemies. [passage omitted]

We have adopted the system of divisions and increased their number. We have also increased and diversified their arms. Therefore every division is now capable of independently entering a war if necessary. This also applies to the brigades. We also embarked on tactical exercises in which various corps participated under war conditions. We have increased these exercises, maneuvers, and practical drills with live ammunition. [passage omitted]

[Al-Ba'ath] What pan-Arab role do our Armed Forces play in confronting the enemies of the Arab nation, especially after the Zionist invasion of fraternal Lebanon, where they played an honorable role in confronting the enemy and preserving security?

[Al-Shihabi] Since its establishment, the Syrian Arab Army has been the Arab nation's army, especially since the 8 March revolution and the experience of the ideological army and the vanguard role it has played since the launch of the corrective movement. Our Army fought in Palestine in the late 1940's. It also supported the Arab people in Egypt during the tripartite aggression in 1956. It protected the Palestinian resistance in the 1960's. It also rushed into Lebanese territories in 1976 in response to a request from the legitimate government and rescue appeals from our Arab people in fraternal Lebanon. When the Israeli invasion of Lebanon took place in 1982 our valiant Armed Forces alone confronted the Israeli military machine, which was supported by the most advanced U.S. technology. In this war our Armed Forces proved they had grasped the lessons of the October liberation war and achieved higher standards in terms of combat capabilities and morale. This once again confirmed that our ideological Army is truly the Arab nation's army and principal force, whose aim is to confront the enemies. [passage omitted]

[Al-Ba'ath] Failure of the international conference plan would leave the Arabs with a military option. What would the Arab nation do in such a situation?

[Al-Shihabi] Our battle against the Zionist enemy is a showdown battle. Our military option in this battle was the result of Zionist aggression against our land and people by means of occupation, expansion, and settlement. Although the Arab Syria is in direct

confrontation with the Zionist entity, and although it has the honor of being on the frontline in defense of this nation and its dignity, it does not relieve any Arab of his pan-Arab duty in this battle. This is because the enemy's expansionist schemes are no longer content with the slogan "From the Euphrates to the Nile." We cannot forget what one of the enemy's leaders once said, namely that Israel's borders extend as far as its tanks can reach. Thus the Zionist danger, supported by imperialism, in fact threatens Mosul just as it threatens Aswan; it also threatens the Arab Maghreb just as it threatens the oil fields in the Gulf. Therefore the Arab nation from the ocean to the Gulf is required to enter into true confrontation with the enemy and to use its military and economic weapons should diplomatic efforts fail. There are no signs that such efforts will succeed. We all are aware of the imperialist and Zionist maneuvers regarding the international conference plan.

We have always been champions of a peace that is based on justice, liberation of our territories, and restoration of usurped rights to their proponents. So is there any option for us other than weaponry in this long battle with an enemy who rejects the terms of just peace and insists on continuing aggression, expansion, and settlement?

[Al-Ba'ath] The Egyptian Army is encircled by the shackles of Camp David to the point that it seems to be almost outside the Arab nation's battles. The Iraqi Army is busy with Saddam's crazy war against Iran. What will be the impact of this painful reality in the future on the Arab nation's battle against the Zionist enemy?

[Al-Shihabi] The Egyptian Army is a fighting Arab army. The regime in Egypt is trying to restrain it with Camp David's shackles. We and the Egyptian Army entered an honorable battle during the liberation war against the Zionist entity. The Egyptian Army displayed eternal heroism and great achievements on the canal front. The Iraqi Army is a fighting Arab army which Saddam Husayn pushed into his crazy war against Iran. It is clear that this situation is not natural, since the natural thing is for both armies, which constitute a strategic depth in our battle against the Zionist enemy, to confront this enemy. We are confident that such a big mistake cannot continue in both Egypt and Iraq, however urgent conditions are. The two armies must play their role in the nation's battle, since any delay or preoccupation with tasks other than the noble pan-Arab and nationalist duties would be in the interest of the enemy who has been working to achieve something like this since the pair of pliers [reference to Egyptian and Syrian Armies] encircled him in the October liberation war.

[Al-Ba'ath] A strategic balance with the enemy is a pan-Arab objective. Syria raised this slogan and has continued to work toward implementing it. How do you visualize both the present and the future of this slogan?

[Al-Shihabi] Since the objective is pan-Arab and the position is principled, work must continue to achieve this objective on the basis of such a principled position. The leader president said about this balance: "It is a pan-Arab duty which we had hoped would be carried out through common pan-Arab action. However, if we are faced with hesitation, laxity, and deviation from

the pan-Arab line on the part of some brothers, we will eventually commit ourselves to carrying out this duty whatever the sacrifices are." On this basis we persistently continue our pan-Arab and nationalist missions. As is known, strategic balance is an integral task at all military, economic, social, and cultural levels, not just a gun against another gun or a plane against another plane. I can say that we are satisfied with our achievements in this regard. We would at the same time say: Since this objective is a pan-Arab objective, then it is every Arab's duty to confront the Zionist enemy who is targeting all Arab soil and looting the resources of the Arab world, as well as destroying the future of its generations. [passage omitted]

TISHRIN Cited on U.S. 'Revenge' for Lebanon Losses
JN130710 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
 0415 GMT 13 Aug 87

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *Tishrin* says: When the United States involved the Marines and the multinational force in the Lebanese problem to arrange matters in accordance with its schemes, it did not expect such involvement to result in grave losses that surpassed the expectations and designs of colonialist circles. Thus, the United States withdrew, defeated and threatening to take revenge. U.S. revenge, according to its long-term strategic concept, is not confined to delivering a blow equal to the size of the losses in the place where its arrogance was humiliated. U.S. revenge will be to deliver a comprehensive blow to the Arabs in a place where it hurts most.

We do not believe that sending a massive military force to the Arab Gulf region falls very short of this concept through which the United States is preparing a way to deliver a devastating blow to the Arabs. Under current circumstances and the method

already being used in the Arab Gulf region, such a blow would exhaust and waste Arab resources and capabilities in a secondary battle. However, this battle would be sufficient to achieve U.S. goals and to draw Arab attention away from the true and increasing danger of the Zionist military establishment. Thus, this exhibitionist buffoonery in the Gulf would achieve Israel's objectives and guarantee its continuous superiority over all the Arabs after exhausting their capabilities.

However, can the United States, which did not expect what happened to the Marines in Lebanon, guarantee the outcome that may result from its intensive involvement in the Gulf region? Has the United States taken into account the circumstances with which computers cannot normally cope? Will the United States succeed in raising the flag of aggression, which is known to the world's nations, over the Arab region? Do the Arabs realize, as the fire is raging within them and around them, that they have at this moment the ability to defeat the U.S.-Zionist scheme threatening them?

UAE Petroleum Minister Arrives in Damascus
JN131818 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
 1730 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah arrived in Damascus this evening. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Oil and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Ghazi Durbi, Assistant Minister for Oil Affairs Dr Nadir Nabulsi, the UAE ambassador in Damascus, and the embassy staff.

Dr al-'Utaybah made a statement in which he said he is pleased to be visiting fraternal Syria. He also extended his greetings and profound love and appreciation to the Syrian Arab people.

Transport Plane Shot Down by Stinger Missile
LD131628 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] An Antonov-26 transport plane with seven passengers on board, which was carrying commodities needed by the people of Khowst District and which was en route from Kabul, was shot down by a Stinger missile over the Mangal Dara region at 0900 this morning.

Bakhtar has reported that as a result of this criminal action by extremist elements, 12 people, the 7 passengers and 5 crew members, were martyred. Two children were among the passengers.

'Extremist' Arms Caches Seized in Kabul Province
LD140637 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0430 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Kabul, August 13, *Bakhtar* — Several arms arsenals of the Afghan extremist groups which were hidden in the suburbs of Shakar Dara District [name as received] of Kabul Province for the continuation of war and bloodshed were detected by the security forces, reports reaching here say. Included among the arms and ammunitions were: 1131 reactive bullets, three machine guns, 2111 recoilless cannons and rocket launchers.

Taking into account the demands of the inhabitants and the cease-fire regulations, the security forces called upon the extremist forces to avoid from bloodshed and to surrender themselves to the security forces. However, the extremist elements refused from yielding and instead opened fire to the security forces. The security forces had to respond as a result of which a number of extremists were crushed and three of them were captured.

Najib Attends Indian Anniversary Celebration
LD131933 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, took part in a meeting at Storay Palace this afternoon to mark the 40th anniversary of India's independence.

The meeting was organized by the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA state, and the Afghan-Indian Friendship Society. It was attended by Haji Muhammad Chamkani, acting chairman of the Revolutionary Council; Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; members and candidate members of the Politburo; secretaries and members of the PDPA Central Committee; vice chairmen and members of the Council of Ministers and Revolutionary Council; heads of social organizations and high-ranking party and state officials; and ambassadors and charge d'affaires of the friendly countries to Kabul.

According to a report from a BIA correspondent, the meeting began with the national anthems of the DRA and the Republic of India. Abdurrahim Hatef, chairman of the National Front Central Council and head of the Afghan-India Friendship Society, gave a speech congratulating the friendly country of India on its anniversary of independence. He talked about the friendly relations and traditional friendship existing between Afghanistan and India.

Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand also delivered a speech on this occasion. He said: Understanding the historical and political importance of India's independence, we honor the 40th anniversary of this independence as a day of regional and Asian victory over colonialism and imperialism. On behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, Afghanistan's people, and the government, I congratulate the fraternal people of India on the 40th anniversary of their independence and wish further success to the peace-loving people of India.

His Excellency Inder Pal Khosla, ambassador and representative extraordinary of the Republic of India, stated in his speech that the glorious celebration taking place in Afghanistan by our friends on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of India's independence and the 100th birthday anniversary of our great leader Jawahar Lal Nehru, is the clearest manifestation of the strong, historical, and traditional friendship between our governments and people, our leaders, and our countries.

The ceremony ended with a joint concert by Afghan and Indian artists.

Najib Participates in Seminar on Draft Constitution
LD140639 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0415 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Kabul, August 13, *Bakhtar* — Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, participated at the second seminar of the activists who have been assigned to launch explanatory campaign on the draft constitution held here.

Salih Muhammad Ziray, Politburo member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, Niaz Muhammad Momand, alternate Politburo member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, Abdul Haq Ulumi [name as received], in charge of the Department of the Armed Forces Affairs in the Central Committee of the PDPA and secretary of the working committee of the Commission for Drafting the Constitution, gave answers to the questions posed by the people either during their discussions or through expressing views on the draft constitution published in the mass-media.

The general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee assessing the work of the seminar specified the responsibilities of the participants of the seminar for organising explanatory meetings on the draft constitution in the capital and provinces.

15 Injured in Sylhet Anti-Government Riot
BK131426 Hong Kong AFP in English
 1405 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 13 (AFP) — At least 15 people were injured when student activists threw home-made bombs and firecrackers during a government rally in northeastern Bangladesh, press reports said here Thursday.

Police retaliated with tear gas and baton charges and the main speaker, Foreign Minister Humayun Rasheed Choudhury, was forced to abandon his speech, the reports said.

The rally was held late Wednesday in the district town of Sylhet, 190 kilometres from here. Some of the injured were in serious condition, the reports said.

The students made repeated attempts to break through a police cordon, throwing explosives and stones to scare away a small crowd in front of the speakers' platform, the reports said.

Mr Choudhury was forced to cut short his address after half an hour of bursting explosives and tear gas canisters, the English-language *New Nation* newspaper said.

The official BSS news agency made no mention of the violence but quoted Mr Choudhury as saying in his speech that the people should rally to support President Hussain Mohammad Ershad to ensure the country's healthy development.

He said the government believed in "constructive politics" and appealed to all "for abhorrence of violence and destructive politics."

The agency said the minister later led a procession organised by the local branch of General Ershad's Jatiya Party.

Reports from Sylhet also said that after the minister and rally organisers had left the scene, the student activists, reportedly belonging to a united students' action committee, occupied the platform and held a counter rally threatening disruption of all ruling party meetings.

Opposition organisations have launched several protests over recent months demanding the resignation of Gen Ershad and his government in favour of a caretaker administration prior to free general elections.

The Jatiya Party rally was part of a three-week campaign launched by Gen Ershad early this week against opposition agitation. He has denied a political crisis and refused to step down as president.

Iranian Envoy Meets Ershad, Conveys Message
NC120737 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
 0430 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] The ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Bangladesh has met with General Ershad, president of Bangladesh, to convey to him a special message from President Seyyed 'Ali

Khamene'i. During this meeting, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran explained the massacre of the pilgrims to the house of God by the dependent Saudi regime's security forces. The Bangladesh president affirmed that Mecca belongs to all Muslims. He added: We condemn the massacre of the pilgrims to the house of God and regret that such a tragedy took place in the sanctuary of the house of God.

At the end of this meeting, the Bangladesh president requested that the ambassador convey his greetings to Mr Khamene'i and the sympathy of the Bangladesh officials and people to the families of the victims.

Spokesman Denies Indian Report on Proposed Visit
BK121426 Dhaka Overseas Service in English
 1230 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman in Dhaka on Wednesday [12 August] denied an Indian news agency report on the proposed visit of an Indian delegation to the Chittagong hill tracts area in Bangladesh. The spokesman told newsmen that both the governments of Bangladesh and India are in close contact to bring about an early defusion of the Chakma refugee issue. He said there would be a meeting of the deputy commissioners of Khagrachari and South Tripura at (Sabrom) in the Indian territory on the 27th of this month. On the Bangladesh side, some tribal leaders will accompany other district officials, while the Indian delegation will also include refugee leaders.

The spokesman added that given political will and goodwill to resolve the problem, return of the refugees can be ensured and ultimately make the Bangladesh-India border a symbol of security and tranquility.

Japan's Kuranari Arrives on Official Visit
BK140516 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
 1530 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] The Japanese foreign minister, Tadashi Kuranari, arrived in Dhaka this afternoon on a 3-day official visit to Bangladesh. He is being accompanied by Mrs Kuranari and a 37-member entourage. Talking to newsmen at the airport, the Japanese foreign minister pledged all possible assistance and cooperation to further strengthen the bilateral ties. Mr Kuranari expressed his country's deep sympathy for the flood victims of Bangladesh. He also assured all relief assistance during this hour of need of a friendly country. He said his talks with Bangladesh Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury will cover the entire gamut of bilateral relations. The talks will also cover world issues since the two countries cooperated with each other on many international forums.

The visit is being seen as an important milestone in the steady development of excellent relations between Japan and Bangladesh. Formal talks between the two foreign ministers will be held tomorrow. Early in the morning, Mr Kuranari will go to Savar to place a wreath at the Jatiya Shaheed Smirit Soudha [National Martyrs Memorial].

Pledges Emergency Aid

OW140029 Tokyo KYODO in English 0021 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] Dhaka, Aug. 14 KYODO — Japan's Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari pledged emergency aid Thursday to rehabilitate victims of floods that have claimed more than 130 people in northern Bangladesh.

Kuranari made the offer in a meeting with President Hussain Mohammad Ershad at the presidential residence, Japanese officials said.

During the 40-minute meeting, which took place shortly after Kuranari's arrival at the Bangladeshi capital, Ershad also urged Japan to expand direct investments in Bangladesh and scrap trade barriers against Bangladeshi farm imports.

Ershad, who advanced the meeting as he was due to make an inspection trip to the flood disaster areas, briefed Kuranari on the urgency of foreign assistance for victims of the flood which hit the northern parts of the country last month.

Kuranari promised to "seriously study" the request, a Japanese spokesman said.

Bangladesh has said it will need 100 million dollars in foreign aid to rehabilitate victims of what are its worst floods in 60 years.

Ershad told Kuranari that Bangladesh wants greater Japanese aid to help finance public construction works and more direct Japanese investment to create employment, Japanese officials said.

Ershad also called on Japan to remove tariff barriers against farm imports and allow in more Bangladeshi agricultural produce in order to correct a bilateral trade imbalance.

Kuranari's three-day visit here is the last leg of a three-nation South Asia trip that has also taken him to India and Sri Lanka.

Kuranari was scheduled to deliver a speech at the Bangladesh Institute of International Strategic Studies on Friday outlining Japan's foreign policy in the region.

Gandhi Greets Pakistani Leaders on National Day
BK140512 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0240 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has sent messages of greetings to the Pakistan president, General Ziaul Haq, and the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, on the occasion of their national day. In his message to General Ziaul Haq, Mr Gandhi said that India looks forward to strengthening cordial and cooperative relations between the two countries in accordance with the Simla Agreement.

Gandhi Views Bofors Deal, India-Sri Lanka Accord
BK140917 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0830 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said that the government would continue its efforts to persuade the opposition to join the joint parliamentary committee to go into the Bofors gun deal. He said government intends to have another round of dialogue with the opposition leaders in view of the latest communications from the Bofors company, which assured all cooperation to the parliamentary probe. He was speaking to newsmen at the Rashtrapati Bhawan [President's House] after the special investiture ceremony for awarding the Bharat Ratna [highest award of India] to Frontier Gandhi Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan.

The prime minister said he was satisfied over the implementation of the India-Sri Lanka agreement, and obstacles, if any, will be overcome.

Serious Consequences Predicted in Drought Areas

Gandhi To Supervise Relief
BK140414 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0240 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] The prime minister has deferred his visit to the Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, and Yugoslavia scheduled from the 24th to the 29th of this month. An official spokesman in New Delhi said this is in view of a serious drought situation in the country. He said the prime minister has decided to defer these visits to enable him to supervise personally the drought relief programs.

Meanwhile, the states have been asked to streamline the supply of essential commodities to meet the drought situation. In a communication to the chief ministers, the food and civil supplies minister, Mr H.K.L. Bhagat, has cautioned them of the adverse effect of the failure of the monsoon on food output and prices.

The chief ministers have been told to improve the public distribution system in the places affected by drought.

'Acute' Shortage of Potable Water
BK130658 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0830 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Text] Members in the Lok Sabha today warned that unless the present drought situation is tackled on a war footing, it may have serious consequences. Continuing the special discussion on the drought situation, they demanded adequate and immediate central assistance to the affected states. Members said many states are facing an acute shortage of drinking water. Arrangements have to be made for transporting drinking water not only to villages but to towns and big cities also. A member urged the government to undertake long-term projects in the drought-prone areas.

Defense Minister Discusses Pakistani Arms Buildup
BK130944 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0830 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] India will fashion its response to Pakistan's acquisition of modern weapons according to the developing situation. Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha, the defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant, said this is an on-going exercise. He said that the government is keeping a close watch on the steps being taken by Pakistan to go nuclear and the U.S. reaction. He said there is no definite information on the type of the airborne warning system that Pakistan is likely to get from Washington.

About the situation of the Indo-Pakistan border, the minister said it has been normal except for some incidents of firing and intrusions which are of a routine nature.

Police Reportedly Fire on Maharashtra Workers
BK140514 Delhi Domestic Service in English
 0240 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] In Maharashtra, unruly demonstrators stoned police in Mangalore (Dastagir) in Amravati District yesterday evening. They were demanding the opening of more work centers in the drought affected areas. Police made a lathi [baton] charge and later opened fire to disperse them. Thirty-six people were injured. Fifteen police constables were injured in the stone throwing.

Navy To Stage Minesweeping Maneuvers 14 Aug
LD131822 Tehran IRNA in English 1812 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Aug. 13, IRNA — Special naval units of the Islamic Republic's Armed Forces will start mine-sweeping manoeuvres in international waters Friday, announced commander of Iran's First Naval Zone here Thursday.

Captain Darius Amir-Yeganeh added that if southern Persian Gulf states especially the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) respond positively to Iran's offer for mine-sweeping, the Islamic Republic's naval units will immediately begin to clear the mine infested waters.

The captain told reporters that Iranian naval units are prepared to counter any probable acts of mischief by any foreign or regional power in their mine-sweeping operations during the manoeuvres. He, however, ruled out such a probability with regard to positive idea of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [sentence as received] He added that the dispatched units have made the necessary preparations for the mine-sweeping operations.

Referring to Britain's and France's mine-sweeping operations in U.A.E. coastal waters, the commander said that when there exists a power such as the Islamic Republic which is capable of maintaining security in the region, there is no need for foreign countries to interfere in the region.

The commander of Iran's First Naval Zone emphasised that the regional countries are better advised to get united in clearing their own region of mines rather than inviting superpowers and other states for the purpose.

He said the announcement made by some foreign states for clearing mines from the region is another pretext for increasing their military presence in the area, as mine laying of the region was a pretext for interference. According to him, mine laying of the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman has undoubtedly been done by those countries which have for some years been attempting to get a military foothold in the area, and have recently stepped up such efforts.

Obviously the commander was pointing towards the U.S. which has been trying to increase its military presence in the Persian Gulf by such provocative moves as escorting the reflagged Kuwaiti oil tankers, since sometime ago.

The Iranian Navy, he noted, has also carried out mine-sweeping operations at the northern tip of the Persian Gulf and the waterway between the two countries which had been mined by the Iraqi regime.

And now, the commander went on, the Navy enjoying the most advanced technology and essential technical equipment is dispatching its special units to the region.

Captain Amir-Yeganeh further said that the dispatched operational units are equipped with helicopters, mine-sweeping boats, frogmen and other necessary facilities.

Navy Commander on Gulf Minesweeping
LD141208 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] In order to safeguard the security of the Persian Gulf and international waterways, the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran will depart in full strength for the Gulf of Oman and the infested waters of the Persian Gulf in order to carry out mine-sweeping operations. This was announced by the commander of the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman fleet in an interview with the correspondent of the central news unit in Bandar-e 'Abbas.

The commander added that the Navy will move into these areas in order to clear the operational zone. Orders have been received from the commander [as heard]. The Navy's modern facilities and equipment, such as warships, helicopters, minesweepers and divers, as well as a number of logistical craft, will be involved.

He said: During the years of the Iraqi-imposed war, the Navy has made use of technology and of its brave personnel. It has gained much experience. The world has witnessed the strength of this force, so much so that while crippling the Iraqi Navy, we have also achieved some successes in clearing the northern region of the Persian Gulf from the mines placed by Iraq.

The commander of the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman Fleet added: Following the strengthening of the naval presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Persian Gulf and cutting off aggressive hands from this strategic region, we announce to all Persian Gulf littoral states that, while maintaining the security of the Gulf, we are ready to go to clear the areas infested with mines. Therefore, with the presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this region, there is no further need for the presence of other countries. It has been repeatedly announced by responsible officials of our country that the security of the Persian Gulf should be safeguarded only by the Persian Gulf littoral states.

At the end of this interview, he added: The equipment and the personnel of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran are on 100 percent alert in order to implement this mission. We are prepared to enter the Gulf of Oman, as soon as we receive orders, and to demonstrate our strength and capability in clearing mines from the area.

Khamene'i Sermons on Mecca, Gulf, United States
LD141405 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] On the occasion of the auspicious 'Id al-Ghadir al-Khumm, Muslim Iranian people today once again, with their extensive and united presence at Friday prayer venues, performed their Muslim ritual. Tehran's Hezbollah ummah gathered at the Tehran University campus and in the surrounding streets to perform the political-worshipping Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

In the Friday prayer sermons, the Tehran Friday imam referred to the bloody tragedy at blessed Mecca and the massacre of the hajj pilgrims at the holy house of God by the fascist Saudi police.

Comparing it with the Karbala' event and his holiness Imam Husayn's innocence — peace be upon him — he said: Just as the true movement of Imam Husayn — peace be upon him — exposed blasphemy and imposed the truth on open-minded hearts, so the bloody tragedy in the house of God will also reveal the ugly face of those who untruthfully regard themselves as the custodians of the two holy mosques, and who on orders from the criminal United States have committed this crime that will remain in the history of Islam.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i described the motive behind the hajj pilgrims' march of disavowal of infidels — in itself a kind of worship — saying: In any religion or faith no one should be attacked during an act of worship. When such a thing happens, the attacker has always been and will always be condemned. A group of men and women, young and old, wounded by this arrogance, crippled and defenseless, were declaring their disavowal of infidels and usurpers of Islamic lands. Your savage police attack against the crowd of pilgrims at the house of God, this eternal sanctuary and haven, martyred nearly 500 people and injured more than 2,000 others. What do you call this? Who is responsible for this brutal massacre? Who is to answer for this premeditated murder?

Expressing regret at the silence of the community of mankind and international organizations concerning this sad tragedy, the president described this attitude as a sign of those organizations' moral decline. He stressed: The wound that that catastrophe inflicted upon the body of the Islamic ummah must be healed. Cultural and publicity organizations should help to bring the true nature of that event to the attention of the world's nations and to make the world understand the sort of response that has been given to the slogan (words indistinct) of "There is no God but God," and "God is great," when it is brought out into the open and its roots become alive.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i added: That tragedy constituted an attack on a guest of God. This act of murdering a guest constitutes an insult to the Islamic Republic of Iran. In both cases we will settle the score at the appropriate time. However, our valiant youngsters should know that a response to that tragedy should not be to have a conflict with an embassy.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council described the expeditionary naval force of the United States and its allies to the Persian Gulf as stupid and ridiculous. Rejecting the U.S. ringleaders' untrue claim to the American people and world opinion that the purpose for the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf is defensive, he said: We are not bothering the United States. It is the United States that is responsible for its presence in the region. We are in confrontation with Iraq and countries like Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, which are selling Iraq's oil and which are accomplices of the war-mongering Iraqi regime. It is the United States that has insinuated itself into this situation.

The president stressed: If Iran's oil tankers are attacked in the Persian Gulf, our policy of retaliation will remain unchanged, regardless of the U.S. presence or that of any other power. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i added: If the United States were even to double its fleet and forces in the Persian Gulf and

attempt to strike, it should realize that the retaliatory blow would be far greater than imagined.

The president then turned to the combat capability of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Persian Gulf, saying: Neither the United States, nor its European or regional allies, have an accurate evaluation of our combat capability at sea. They do not our navalstriking capability. We have two major resources in the Persian Gulf: first, the great, diversified means and equipment manufactured in our own country; second, the unshakeable power of the martyr-seeking people's forces.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council added: I declare clearly and firmly today that it is the United States' motive and wish to wage a war against us on behalf of Iraq. However, it does not dare, because in this arena we will lose nothing. If the United States were to receive a blow, its political and military credibility as a superpower would be destroyed. Then the world's people will realize that the United States as a superpower is merely a meaningless word. It is only full of hot air.

In conclusion, the president stressed the comprehensive readiness and extensive presence of the people at the front: Arrogance has fired its last shot. It seeks to confront the Islamic Republic of Iran because all other avenues have been closed to it. For this reason our valiant youngsters, with proper training, should be prepared to serve wherever those in charge of the war require. Our forces should be concentrated. We should strike one blow after another on the Ba'thist enemy and its supporters.

KEYHAN Interviews Musavi on Mecca Incidents *PM131343 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian* *5 Aug 87 (additional unnumbered page)*

[Report on interview with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi by unidentified *Keyhan* correspondent on 5 August at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport on board plane carrying dead and wounded from Saudi Arabia]

[Text] The prime minister answered a question about what he saw in the plane carrying the bodies [of Iranian pilgrims]. He said: These crimes show that the Saudi regime has committed a huge atrocity. We are only just beginning to understand its dimensions.

There are some wounded, no doubt you have talked to them, who were hit by bullets. There are some brothers who have been wounded with exploding bullets. These include Mr Khani, whom I saw here; he should definitely be interviewed. I have said before that they do not use this type of bullet even in wars.

There are some wounded who are in a coma and cannot talk. In those who could, I saw a revolutionary spirit plus an anger and strong motivation, evidence of their innocence and their righteousness.

At the same time, the important thing that I should mention in this interview is that one of our wounded, because he arrived late and because of the problems that they [the Saudi authorities]

caused for us, was martyred. This also adds another responsibility to the Saudis.

Our correspondent asked: Mr Musavi, we have had similar marches in Mecca every year. Why did the Saudis decide to counter the demonstrations this year? What was their aim?

The prime minister replied: If you look at the events in the Persian Gulf and the disgraceful U.S. defeats, the issue becomes clear. The United States suffered a severe blow over the issue of the Persian Gulf. Its dignity was damaged. It was seeking revenge on the Islamic revolution and wanted to deliver a blow to hide its defeat. This is how we view this incident. We have many clear indications of U.S. involvement in this affair.

Musavi then answered a question on the recent reaction shown by Britain, France, the United States, and Saudi Arabia. He added: Moves by the United States and France usually follow the same direction in the world; they move together — although on the surface they have differences of opinion, as is the case at present. However, there is a sort of protest against Reagan's policies in the Western world, because Reagan's actions are not thought out. He does things on the basis of vendetta, personal feelings, and emotions. One example of this is the McFarlane affair. Now it is clear that even the Americans think this was a childish and unprofessional act.

This is how things have gone on. There is protest about this in the Western world. While there are common interests in the Western world which hold countries together, we must take note that within this so-called united bloc, there are protests against basic policies. The fact that we have revealed this issue and our resistance and our steadfastness will no doubt underline this issue further. Western public opinion will find out how their crooked-thinking officials and those who only think of themselves have endangered their real interests throughout the world.

The prime minister then answered this question posed by our correspondent: Does the imam's recent message to Hojjat al-Islam Karrubi clarify the government's policies with regard to relations with Saudi Arabia?

Musavi said: The real path of our foreign policy has always been defined by the views of the Imam. The government has always moved along the imam's line. The imam has his own ideas in connection with international issues connected with the fate of Muslims and the Islamic revolution. The government obeys these views. We have clear guidelines from the imam on this matter which the government will follow step by step in order that they may be realized.

Our correspondent asked: What effects will the Mecca incident have? How do you view the various reactions shown by different countries with regard to the issue?

The prime minister replied: We are faced with an incident of great magnitude. This is just the beginning of a series of new events. It is far too early to make a judgment on the issue. As a preliminary step, we can say that the matter is just being opened up among the supporters of the Islamic revolution. The main question is revolutionary Islam, a dedicated Islam, an Islam that

does not accept world aggressors, one which stands against court-sponsored clergymen — one of whom spouted all that rubbish against the Islamic revolution at the grand mosque in Mecca.

This movement faces the other movement, and this revolutionary idea will undoubtedly be welcomed by progressive youth, who are still searching. It will have severe effects in the Islamic world. As the imam has said, this is something which the aggressors have provided themselves. We could not have reached this stage by ourselves so quickly. Now there is a road opened for this movement.

Kharazi Arrives in Ankara on Visit to Turkey

For reportage on the visit to Turkey by Dr Kamal Kharazi, head of the War Information Headquarters and IRNA director general, see the Turkey section of the 14 August West Europe Daily Report and subsequent issues.

Kuwait Daily Interviews Khashuqji on Gulf Affairs

JN131520 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic
2 Aug 87 pp 1, 18, 19

[Interview with 'Adnan Khashuqji by Ahmad al-Jarallah; date and place not given]

[Text] Question: Let us discuss the international political aspects of your personality. We are looking for answers to our numerous questions. Through your information and contacts, can we get the scenario planned for the Gulf and Middle East regions?

Answer: The previous oil years drew the attention of the whole world to the Middle East area, especially the oil states, particularly after the great flood of oil revenues, the rise in oil prices, and the vital importance of oil.

Due to these important factors, the world political powers in both the East and the West started to pay more attention to us. The importance of this region is no longer based on oil alone. We have minerals and raw materials, especially in the neighboring African states. The East and the West are not the only countries interested in us. There are others, such as Japan, which gets its oil supplies from the region. When Japan wants to ensure its supplies, it does not do so directly. It talks with the United States, its godfather, and the Americans move according to Japanese interests.

It is the same situation with the other superpowers: the Soviet Union and China. They move directly on the periphery of interests, or if this is not possible, indirectly. As a result of these pressures and moves, we receive the shocks, which come in the form of continuous tension in the Gulf, the Peninsula, and the Middle East.

There is another important point that I would like to clarify.

As a superpower, the United States may not be in need of our oil or of a commercial market, but its friends and allies have interests

in Arab oil and markets and in the raw materials of our African neighbors.

It is an involved network of interests that results in some specific policies and positions.

Take the Soviet Union for example. Its new political leadership is different and more flexible than previous ones that were frozen within limited ideological frameworks. The new leadership has its own balances and quick moves. For instance, there were no trade relations before between the Soviet Union and West Germany, but the Germans want relations in order to reunify the two Germanys with Soviet blessing. The Soviets want this new West German gateway as a reply to the Chinese gateway. This means that as China opened its doors for the Americans to reach the Soviet ideology, the Soviets opened the West German doors.

All this is taking place through calculated and balanced interest arrangements.

Question: Let us return to the scenario in the Middle East. What do the superpowers want from this area?

Answer: What I have said so far is an introduction to answer your question.

In my opinion the people of the world are pawns in the hands of the superpowers.

When certain interests pressure the United States to sell Afghanistan to the Soviet Union for some Latin American countries, there is nothing to prevent the same thing from happening here. It is important for the superpowers to agree. The reasons for making any moves in this area are always present. These superpowers can arrange moves in order to intervene or even occupy militarily.

Therefore, when we want to analyze a situation or talk about a future scenario, we must look to these illegal fathers, the superpowers, and try to understand what they want from those whom they think are their children.

Question: Does this mean the superpowers have plans for the whole world?

Answer: They are not so clever. The superpowers exploit situations, such as the Iraq-Iran war, and terrorist issues, as in Iran. They exploit these situations and divide the benefits among themselves.

For example, the Soviet Union is exploiting U.S. mistakes in the Middle East. It does not care in this case to have friends.

What is important for the Soviet Union is that the Middle East countries be aligned against the United States by taking the Soviet line.

There is another important point that I would like to clarify.

The Soviet game in the Middle East is no longer played as it was during the time of the late President Jamal 'Abad al-Nasir. The

Soviets are now satisfied by simply publicizing U.S. mistakes in the Middle East. The benefit from this is that the Middle East countries will not be so ready to align themselves with the Americans.

Thus there exists a state of neutrality and in such a state there are disputes over dividing gains. Such a division would be better in some situations, like the Iraq-Iran war.

Now the Soviet game is in West Europe. The Soviets want to have a situation in West Europe similar to that in the Middle East in order to increase anti-American feelings. The Soviets realize that the Germans are very hungry for national unity. They want to trade with West Germany and to use it as a door to Europe in order to neutralize Europe's attitude toward the United States. They want to facilitate dividing gains in the future between Moscow and Washington.

These are the new calculations of the new, flexible Soviet political leadership. For the Soviets, the West European game can get quick results compared with the game in the Middle East.

Question: Before returning to the Middle East scenario, what precisely is the Soviet-German relationship?

Answer: The Soviet Union will benefit from the raw materials from African countries through West Germany. Through Germany it sells gas needed for its industrial requirements. The volume of trade between the two countries is such that 37 percent of Soviet exports go to West Germany.

Question: Why has West Europe become the venue for the Soviet Union's game instead of the Middle East?

Answer: Our importance to the Soviets is not what it was before. The Middle East would have been important to the Soviets if it were neutral, a Soviet satellite, or if World War III had started.

The calculations now are different. If the Soviets succeed in West Europe, the Middle East will lose its importance, particularly during Soviet-U.S. disputes.

Now we come to the scenario in the Middle East and the Iraq-Iran war.

The question here is: Has the interest behind this war been fulfilled?

If these interests have been fulfilled, then the war should end, unless the judgment of reason and wisdom from the parties directly concerned in the war — Iran, for example — says otherwise. However, all available indications claim that the end is near.

My information also claims that this war is near an end, provided that no new factors and calculations come up within the next few months. All calculations at present, including those of profit and loss, indicate an end to this war.

Question: What is the thing you did not mention during the U.S. investigation of the American arms scandal to Iran, known as Irangate?

Answer: Our hope is one, the hope of honest and dedicated Arab people. For example, all Arab leaders support Arab unity. This subject was widely discussed, to the extent that it became the talk of ladies' salons.

As for the Palestinian question, President Husni Mubarak is dedicated to it and works for it. So is King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, who has been fighting for the cause since he was a prince. So is King Hassan II, who, I believe, is a moderate leader on a national level.

All Arab countries and leaders are working devotedly and honestly for such national causes.

But it is important that all should know the weak points of the West. The West uses any person, gets what it wants from him, then tells him goodbye. It is an old story.

The shah was overthrown. Who really overthrew him? His people? Nonsense! The West planned this for a long time and cooperated to bring in Khomeini and his group. They prepared Iran for this. They allowed the Army to carry out a coup against the shah to put Khomeini in his place. Why? Because, according to the West, this put pressure on the Soviet Union. The new religious force that took power in Iran would stand against the Soviets and their influence, as in Afghanistan. As we can see, the American plan has succeeded. They exerted pressure on Iraq and the Soviet Union through Iran.

In some cases, U.S. calculations may show that they must sacrifice some of their vital interests to the Arabs. This they are prepared to do, provided that their interests are served. This is exactly like an accounting ledger. There may be some losses in some areas, but the overall calculations show a profit.

Question: Besides the Irangate investigations, do you have anything you would like to discuss?

Answer: If everybody had spoken the truth from the beginning — as I advised President Reagan — no one would have been hurt. Facts in themselves are not damaging, because they are clear. Naturally, I knew nothing about contra aid and the other stories. The operation was very clean with regard to the United States and it can be very proud of carrying it out because the operation was a serious step towards achieving peace in the region. The operation was an attempt to liquidate and terminate an orthodox regime, created by the United States itself. However, it realized that the problems this regime was causing outweighed the benefits.

Therefore, the operation was acceptable to the United States, but the other areas of the operation were controversial. Did the funds which were deposited into the secret accounts really come from the Sultan of Brunei? If not, who supplied the funds? To which side did they go? Were they spent on illegal operations? Did they perhaps go to some political leaders during the U.S. election campaign?

It would have been the biggest scandal of Reagan's administration, and would have removed him from office in 5 minutes, if it were confirmed that this money was used for political election purposes. This is illogical.

But the Americans made a big thing out of nothing, to the extent that they were frightened although there was nothing to fear.

The Iranians were not affected.

On the contrary, the Americans began a dialogue and actually helped Iraq by attempting to introduce a group (in Iran) to help put an end to the war and achieve peace.

Thus, what is wrong in this? It is a purely American story. I think that there is something else there on the American side, but what is it? God knows.

Question: But is there anything new you would like to tell the people?

Answer: Some details, but I do not wish to disclose them, because they may embarrass some people. They could cause a controversy, like the one in the United States. We do not want to introduce such controversies in our region.

Question: While carrying out these operations, did you keep in mind that you are an Arab and that your actions may have harmed your social and national reputation? For example, about your contacts with Israel, or more correctly, with Shim'on Peres, do you not feel that some of the calculations you made were wrong?

Answer: I believe that following the Fex summit and the approval of King Fahd's plan by all Arab countries, there are no more problems. If all Arabs, who were devoted to the cause and to the liberation of occupied Palestine, and all Arab countries had begun to implement the plan, by any method, a settlement would have been reached by now.

As for me, I am not a politician. I think in terms of commerce. I believe in individual motives, as there is nothing in this world which cannot be done by individuals like you and me, who move and who do not stay sitting with a narghileh in our mouths. The world does not come to us, it comes within reach only if we move towards it.

From my contacts with the Israeli group, from Begin to Sharon and others, I have found that Peres is the only one who really understands this area and the meaning of the Jewish state. I found that he alone can serve the cause of peace in the region and hand back the occupied territories. For this reason, I made sure to strengthen my friendship with him and to support him. My relationship with Peres is not a secret.

Is there anyone willing to hint that I am an Israeli agent? This relationship was known to all Arab leaders, including Yasir 'Arafat. When you asked me as a journalist if I had seen Peres, I did not deny it. I am committed to the path approved by the Fex summit. All Arab leaders, except a very few, have seen Peres.

The only one who persists is King Hassan II, who said: "Let us implement the Fez plan and see what this man (Peres) has to offer."

What was the result? They became furious with him, but in the end they met with him. King Hassan has not changed and still remains the chairman of the Jerusalem Committee.

If King Hassan, as a leader and ruler, behaved in this way, do you think that Khashuqi, the man, would lobby in various power centers?

I am just paying the premium. I made huge profits in my country on which I formed my business and wealth. It is my duty to help out now.

This is my duty and the duty of every Arab. The soldier who goes to the battlefield and becomes a martyr. Who gave him those orders? Was it not the call of duty that convinced him, as a human being? There is no such thing as a group. We are not robots that move only when ordered.

Even in the case of Iran, when they push their soldiers into minefields, these soldiers are convinced they are martyrs. They are going to meet God. Therefore, they throw themselves into enemy fire for a goal.

The individual has a value and his moves have a value. There is no need to converse with individuals. It is their duty to bring facts before their leaders, before their leaders make mistakes.

Question: But what are the factors on which your calculations were based in the Irangate operation?

Answer: It all started with the presence of a group of moderates in Iran, headed by Khomeyni's successor, Montazeri. He saw that Iran was on a downward trend and that orthodoxy and chauvinism gained nothing. He wanted to adopt another line, based on cooperation with the Arabs. His line did not include cooperating with the Americans or the Israelis, but with the Arabs.

This man came to me and told me of his conviction. As an Arab citizen, my duty was to inform the Arab governments. This is what I did. They informed me of their unwillingness to deal with this man and the elements he led for fear that this would be interpreted as interference in the domestic affairs of another country. I thought about offering this opportunity to the Egyptians, as they have relations with all sides and an intelligence service which could find out everything about this man. A number of meetings took place between this Iranian and Egyptian officials. When the Egyptians told the Americans about Montazeri, they said that he was feeble-minded and should not be listened to. The Americans did not want the Egyptians to follow up the issue.

The man as I saw him -- and according to my sources of information and through the people he brought from Iran and Europe -- was not like that at all.

Perhaps the Americans had another aim: to exploit the region

and to use the religious elements there as a buffer against the Soviet Union. I thought of contacting Shimon Peres, and told him to find out about Montazeri for me, as the Israelis had had relations with Iran since the shah's time. After 48 hours a reply came from Perez, saying that he would send a man.

After a week, the meetings were still continuing and the Israelis wanted the Americans to join the operation, so I sent a report to the former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane.

In the end, the operation turned into a kind of bargaining between the Americans and the Iranians. The Americans wanted to test Ghorbanifar by asking him if he could open the Iranian airports. McFarlane offered \$5 million for the release of the U.S. hostages on the condition that the hostages were released first. Neither side trusted the other. At last they came to me and asked me to join the operation. I agreed, but asked for \$5 million -- I was given \$1 million.

The shipment took place and the airport opened. The rest of the operation is the story you have heard from Oliver North. In Washington, the main issue was forgotten. The whole operation became a child's game for McFarlane and the others; it was limited to the hostages issue.

I remember once that I told them they were crazy, because if the Iranians became accustomed to this type of bargaining they would kidnap Americans from any bar in Rome and then ask for two or three tanks. The whole operation could set a dangerous precedent.

In the meantime, McFarlane went to Iran and asked them to trade some hostages for arms. They said they would only release two, but McFarlane insisted on all, otherwise he threatened to cancel the deal. However, in the end, the Americans settled on two hostages.

Question: What was the American plan?

Answer: The plan the Americans eventually arrived at was to overthrow the Iranian regime. By the time the two sides met, my role was over. The Americans were planning to liquidate Khomeyni and give power to a new man.

Question: How did they plan to liquidate Khomeyni?

Answer: They said by putting something in his tea or something like that. The stories are many and can be read like the tales of the "Thousand and One Nights."

Question: Being a businessman, did you not feel that such an operation would affect you, or cause some trouble and make enemies for you in the Arab world?

Answer: First, I did not expect the operation to be revealed. I always wanted it to remain secret. Second, I was not expecting such stupidity on the part of the Americans. I thought they were very intelligent, particularly as the operation was so simple. However, now the Americans are involved in an unending story in the Gulf. We must wait to see how it ends.

Some American ships may sink and American forces will have to come to the region. Then they will remember poor 'Adnan Khashoggi who tried to solve the problem with three cards. Now the three cards will turn into three tanks.

At the beginning of the deal, I was confident of good results. I did not expect such developments in the United States, where matters were entrusted to one or two persons and where each concealed much from the other.

Is it logical that such information be kept secret from the U.S. secretaries of state and defense and the CIA chief? Or that the whole operation was supervised by a low-ranking Pentagon officer, whose only concern was to please the President by effecting the hostages' release? What is the value of these people compared to the higher interests of the United States? After all, they lost 37 people in the *USS Stark* incident in minutes.

I did not think of all these things, particularly when I found that Israel, headed by Peres alone, was ready to hand over the West Bank and wanted peace in the region so that the Jewish state could devote time to building its economy.

If this was Peres' thinking, it meant that he would return our lands so that the refugees could return home. Why then should we refuse to negotiate and meet with them? Why all this fuss with international conferences and things, when it was possible to agree so simply?

Have we reached the point where we have become afraid of ourselves as individuals and do not worry about our people and interests?

Question: However, what do your sources say about the people's feelings toward you now?

Answer: I believe that my reputation has been distorted because of my participation in this unwanted game. It was unwanted by the Americans, where I discovered people cheating each other, and it was unwanted by the Arabs because Iran received arms.

Imagine this logic! The arms Iran received were to end the war, and everyone knew this. Even some of those involved in the fighting learned of it through Arab sources. There are no Arabs, official or unofficial, with whom I have had contacts, from whom I withheld this information. However, I did not announce the operation to the press or stand before the cameras saying I did so and so. I rarely involve myself in such things. However, this is my luck and my fate.

The important thing that we have learned is that the Americans are crazy, as seen on TV during the investigations. So, will we leave our future in their hands? Should we hand over our fate to Mr North and Company?

Question: Did Iran receive great quantities of weapons?

Answer: According to what was said at the investigation, their worth did not exceed \$35 million. So, what is the value of this amount compared with the billions of dollars used to buy arms from other sources, such as China? Moreover, my role did not

exceed what I have so far stated, because we had no interest in strengthening Iran. Shall we strengthen this bugaboo that is present in the region? Question: Talk in the press centers on your life. Some say you are bankrupt, some say not. Do not answer in a diplomatic way. Are you bankrupt or not?

Answer: First, you should have asked me if I am the richest man in the world. The press distorts things and says that so and so has billions. However, among ourselves we know who has billions.

Billions only exist with the state, and then not all. We have worked hard and collected our wealth from our business interests in Africa, Morocco, and South America. Our total wealth amounts to \$20 billion. Where did it go? Within 15 years it went into construction projects and investments.

We invested in real estate in the United States. Naturally, due to market fluctuations, we were affected. Reports said that we were bankrupt, that we had lost a city, that the sultan had bought his yacht.

As for myself, I am in as good a position as I was when I began. I am not deprived of anything and do not need anything. On the contrary, I pay all my debts to avoid any legal actions against me.

Question: What is this story about takeovers? Is it true?

Answer: No one has seized any of my property. We have silenced them by paying \$30 million here, \$50 million there, and \$100 million somewhere else. By this method we have silenced the banks. Someone once said that they had seized my plane, but this was just a conspiracy to go inside it to look for documents on the Iran deal. They entered the plane but found only tissue paper.

Question: Has your luxurious life kept you away from the Arab world and its religious values?

Answer: We all live a luxurious life. I am not living an indifferent or peculiar lifestyle. There are many in the Arab world who live better than I and enjoy more than I do.

If you were to ask me if I could sleep without praying, I would say no, not at all, because this is something in my heart. Religious duties must be performed.

I realize that nothing on earth lasts forever. A man may pass under a tree which could fall on him and kill him in 5 minutes; money will not help. I was brought up in the city of Mecca and my deceased father used to take me to prayers with him and brought me up on religious values. These things you cannot remove from your heart.

Question: Do you mind the press talking about your life? It is noticeable that your life, even your private life, is exposed to the international press. Do you enjoy this?

Answer: When the war of words began in the United States during the investigation, the Jews tried to stir up trouble by talking against the area and against me. I assigned an investigative firm to watch them and found out that their goal was to

influence officials. The company told me to clarify the fact that the money I had received was clean. In this way, I could silence them by showing that the wealth I had collected was through trade.

I liked the plan, for by showing my wealth to the world I could silence all rumors and allegations. So, I accepted it and told the company to show them what I owned. This is my private plane, my house...what do you want?

The plan worked and the Zionists were silenced. After this I found myself exposed to the press, or more correctly, I opened the door to them.

Question: Do you consider this a kind of incitement to the haves and the have nots?

Answer: You could say that.

Question: Particularly, as you are from an Arab environment known for its straightforward and humble behaviour.

Answer: Look, compared with the wealth that some individuals have, beside their palaces, yachts and things, and here I mean merchants, I am a small fish.

Question: But they use it without show.

Answer: Because I have nothing to hide I do not fear the press. Others have things to hide and avoid the press. As long as my door is open, I must accept and receive journalists. I have nothing to hide because I am not in politics and do not intend to become a ruler or a member of parliament. I am a merchant and businessman, and intend to remain so. Naturally, at times businessmen become involved in political issues because of their meetings with politicians and their knowledge of events.

Question: Your economic deals are concentrated in the West at a time when your contributions to Arab and developing countries are limited. Have you thought of this?

Answer: I have helped to establish many industries in Africa and many other areas. Even in western Sudan, where many accusations have been leveled against me, we have created 60 national industries. However, when given the option of where to invest my hard-earned wealth, either in the forests of Africa or in other areas where better results could be obtained, I certainly prefer the latter. Regarding the former area, where are the human resources that could accommodate these industries? Where are the materials and the markets? There is no one to buy the products and all industries established depend on government help. Government aid halts, the industries halt, and I am very sensitive on the subject of profit and loss.

Question: How long have you been rich?

Answer: When I was a student, I was caught up in a strange story and perhaps had a little luck. The first deal I made was with an Arab army to provide vehicles. I made about \$300,000 from it. As a student, I was getting \$250 per month. My father asked me to put the money from the deal in the bank and promise not to

touch it until after my graduation. So I promised, and deposited it with the Bank of America in San Francisco.

At that time, in the mid 1950's, there was an economic boom in the United States and I found that after 3 years, my \$300,000 was worth \$3.5 million. Suddenly, I had become a minor millionaire. At the university I attended I was the first student to own a villa. I was the first Arab to own a private plane; due to the nature of my work, I had to have mobility. In this I was influenced by the American businessmen who flew to visit me aboard their private planes.

Question: Does this cause any sensitivity for you in your society?

Answer: Here you have to choose. Either you open and establish a bridge between you and your Arab world, which is part of the Third World, or you just stand in the middle of the bridge where you may fall. I found that my area needed me to work on the outside, to become stronger and bigger, and thus able to help. This is exactly like the Lebanese, who migrated to Africa and returned to help Lebanon. This was my way of thinking. Wealth cannot be amassed here, only outside. Then we can return to our countries.

Question: How do you deal with people who do not like you?

Answer: I tell myself there is no one who does not like me. I have no enemies and do not create enmity with anyone. However, when I have a dispute with someone, I give him the lion's share to make him comfortable. I do not want him to be disturbed in the night by someone claiming that 'Adnan killed him.

I have my own way of dealing with people. I always like to include in my work people who worked with me before and who may not have dealt properly with me, but whose friendship I still want. I am not greedy and have never believed in this.

Question: After the Peres story, do you think it will be comfortable and easy for you if you go back to your area?

Answer: I do not think I caused any political embarrassment. I was not fronting for anybody. I did my duty and it was over. Therefore, I have not caused any damage to any ruling body. This is on the official level.

On the popular level, my visit to Israel perhaps caused embarrassment, because it could be wrongly interpreted before the world and could be subject to rumors.

The story is too long. Time will tell.

Question: What was the reaction of those you met in the Arab area?

Answer: All were saying that 'Adnan was their dear friend, as you saw yourself.

Question: Do you have any plans to end your economic and trade career?

Answer: I think it is too early for me. I have many more

opportunities available.

Question: Do you feel tense at times?

Answer: I always think in a positive way. If you analyze people, you can see how complicated they are. You should not become complicated through them.

Man should open his mind as a human being, study the complexes of others, and analyze them in order to be able to deal with them and open new horizons. For instance, I do business with Romania, Poland, the Soviet Union, and Europe.

During the 2 days I spent with you in the area, I made a few deals that earned me between \$15 to 20 million, as a result of trade relations between East and West and through my understanding of what is happening in the area.

Question: A year or more ago, you told me you were in a period of thinking. Is this over?

Answer: Concerning our region, no. We have entered a state of tension and unrest. The area is confused and mixed up. All are searching for a solution.

Question: There is a state of economic recession in the Gulf. Do you think this state is ending?

Answer: If you analyze the situation accurately, you find that what we have spent and still spend on salaries, the increasing population, imports, and others things are enough for us.

If we have to seek outside markets, there is only the European markets. In order to establish relations with them, you find yourself compelled and forced to hold oil prices steady and not produce more than them.

This state of recession will continue until we find a way to invest our wealth.

Question: Can economic integration solve the problem?

Answer: Part of the problem, but not all of it.

Question: And the GCC economic formula?

Answer: Despite all this, the Gulf area is small. Egypt alone has 50 million people. What is the population of the GCC states? If we put all these people together, and work with the Iraqis, Sudanese, Africans, and the whole area, including Turkey, our position will be different.

Question: What was the size of your losses during the economic recession?

Answer: The losses, excluding investments and banks, amounted to about \$800 million. We paid in cash just to silence the world. We did silence it.

Bodies of 58 'Martyrs' Arrive From Saudi Arabia
NC140608 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
 0430 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Excerpts] The pure bodies of 58 martyrs of the Bloody Friday in Mecca arrived in Tehran this morning. According to a Central News Unit correspondent, special ceremonies were held at Mehrabad Airport to honor the lofty status of these noble martyrs in the presence of the ministers of culture, Islamic guidance, and roads and transport, and the deputy minister of the Martyrs' Foundation. [passage omitted]

The report states that to date the pure bodies of 230 martyrs of the bestial massacre by the Saudi regime have been transported in four flights to Iran. Due to a lack of cooperation and obstructionism on the part of the servile Saudi regime and based on official figures released so far, more than 90 pristine bodies of our dear ones are still in Saudi Arabia. Officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran are continuing their efforts to have them returned. [passage omitted]

A communique issued by the Martyrs' Foundation of the Islamic revolution announces that the pure bodies of these 58 noble martyrs of the bloody calamity of Mecca will be interred today after Friday prayers, with the massive presence of the Hezbollahi residents of Tehran. [passage omitted]

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Communique No 2,927
 LD131519 Tehran IRNA in English 1508 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 13 (IRNA) — Iran's Muslim combatants smashed an Iraqi offensive to retake one of the strategic heights in the Sardasht operational theater, northwestern fronts, early Wednesday, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the attacking enemy troops and forcing them to retreat.

Announcing the above, the 2927th Joint Staff communique reported here today that several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and a number of enemy gun emplacements together with one munitions dump were destroyed in parts of the battlefields in artillery duels with Iranian forces yesterday.

Iranian patrol convoys successfully carried out several intelligence-gathering missions throughout the northwestern fronts Wednesday, discovering and seizing several rifles and a large amount of other military equipment of Iraqi forces.

The Joint Staff communique said that the artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants prevented the enemy from landing troops or reinforcing its exhausted forces in Helaleh, Naft-e Shah, Jofeyr and Chazabeh, western and southern fronts, Wednesday.

Iranian Gendarmerie Forces inflicted heavy casualties on Iraqi troops and destroyed 10 enemy gun emplacements and observation posts in parts of the southern fronts yesterday.

Iran's navy gunboats intercepted and searched 11 cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Wednesday but allowed them

to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying cargo for Iraq, the communique concluded.

Iraqi Bombings Kill Civilians

LD131701 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Prov. Aug. 13, IRNA — A civilian was martyred and six others wounded when some Iraqi warplanes bombed three villages near Sardasht, West Azarbayjan Province, at noon Thursday.

On June 28, more than 100 civilians were martyred and about 2,000 others wounded as a result of Iraqi chemical bombardment of the town of Sardasht.

Also, on Monday August 10, Iraqi fighter planes bombarded two industrial units in Tabriz and Gachsaran, West Azarbayjan and Boyir Ahmad va Kohkiluyeh Provinces respectively, resulting in the martyrdom and wounding of a number of workers.

Junejo Address Marks Independence Anniversary
BK140800 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
 1434 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Address to nation by Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo on the eve of the 40th anniversary of independence; place not given — live]

[Excerpts] My dear countrymen, peace be upon you. I extend my independence day greetings to you. Forty years ago today, Pakistan was formed. This is an occasion of pleasure and of accountability as well. The tiny toddler has become a graceful young man. The sapling of national independence which was planted by our ancestors has grown into a tall tree. In other words, I would like to say that — as a nation — we have now reached the age of maturity. Now we are not a new or small point that just popped up on the map of world. We are now a people who have experienced the ups and downs of time. We are a lively nation, having its own history. Therefore, I would like you to thank God while celebrating the occasion. We should take account of ourselves and face tomorrow with new determination and hope.

My dear countrymen, today, in reference to these facts, I would like to draw your attention to some important matters. But before that, I would like to once again extend to you independence day felicitations. You have repeatedly heard this phrase on a number of occasions. But there is no other way to convey this than to say that independence is a very valuable, divine blessing and has no substitute. It should be kept fully in mind that if you have independence, you have everything; if you do not have independence, you have nothing.

Here, I would like to make it clear that Pakistan's freedom movement is different from any other freedom movement in the world for two reasons. First, the foundation of this movement was laid on an ideology — rather than on a belief. Second, it was achieved through democratic struggle. Our leadership believed in principled struggle, not in violence and chaos. And that leadership was so confident of the correctness of the principle and of the people's power that it did not face a moment of frustration which might have led it to consider violence to achieve its objectives. The people, too, were so confident in the unshakable sincerity and invincible capability of their leadership that they did not think of anything else.

We have to fully understand that this country was created through democratic means, and its existence depends of democracy alone. The present government came to power through democratic processes, and its primary objective is also to help democracy take root in this country so it cannot be uprooted by the wind of opposition. When we took part in the election, we had been left with two alternatives: either to continue martial law in the country or to begin the democratic process through elections. Remember, there is no current political ideology which provides for democracy without elections. There is a difference between the likes and dislikes of a sensible democracy and a (?motivated) crowd, and they have different results as well. Who knows better than us that the authority achieved through the strength of anarchy and crowds is both powerful and weak as well.

This is why your government gave maximum attention to stabilizing democracy after assuming office. The emergency state was lifted from the country for the first time in 20 years, and basic rights were restored as provided by the Constitution. The press was granted unprecedented freedom. Supremacy of the Parliament was established, and the courts were given an opportunity to function independently. Our firm belief in democracy enabled us to bear all difficulties. Our commitment, God willing, will surely be fulfilled: A system will evolve in this country to transfer power through ballots. Democracy without this is nothing but a dream and a comely imagination.

In the context of elections, I would like to state that the process of local elections helps promote and strengthen democratic values among the people. And God willing, you will see that the local elections will be held as scheduled. As a result of this, the people will further strengthen the foundations of the country's democracy by directly taking part in the administration of their respective areas and towns through their elected representatives. But what we need is to come out of the world of imagination and face reality when talking of democracy. The 21st century is knocking at our doors. The world has moved quite a bit forward, and we have lost considerable time. We have to compensate for this. We will have to create a democratic, political, and economic stability in the country, setting an example for the developing world.

But there are some requirements to be met for this. We have formulated some of these requirements on a priority basis in the form of five points. Under these five points, we have prepared a program. One can get an idea of the comprehensiveness of this program by the fact that, with its implementation, half of Pakistan's population will have an education; 90 percent of villages will be electrified; 2.2 million homeless people will be provided with housing; (72.07) million rural people will have drinking water; all union councils will be linked with towns through a road network, of which 4,500 km of road have already been constructed within 1 year alone; 4.5 million acres of land will be recovered from salinity and waterlogging; 700,000 people will be provided with employment; and slum areas of cities will be transformed into modern residential areas.

You will then see for yourself that a primary revolution has been quietly carried out in Pakistan. This is not a mere promise. Last year, your government spent 23 billion rupees on the program, and a 26-billion-rupee developmental program has been formulated during this fiscal year. [passage omitted discussing the five-point program]

Our objective is to make Pakistan strong and prosperous. This is the ideal that constitutes the essence and foundation of our five-point program. We fixed our attention on each problem to achieve this objective. For instance, we consider a balanced foreign policy and a strong defense capability as pivotal to the country's progress and prosperity. This is the reason that it has been made a part of our five-point program. Our enemy knows that we are not oblivious of our frontiers and that we know how to protect our independence. Our gallant Armed Forces are (?capable) of facing any situation. The government and Pakistani nation consider it their duty to provide all sorts of resources for

this objective. There will be, God willing, no laxity in fulfilling this responsibility.

The cornerstone of our foreign policy is based on the principle that we will never allow any compromise with our independence and sovereignty. I have expressed my views many times on the regional issues — such as Afghanistan, the Soviet Union, and India. Our policy in this regard is clear. I want to take you into complete confidence regarding the Afghanistan problem. I am also fully aware of your sentiments, ideas, and attitudes on the background, the consequences and [word indistinct] of this problem.

I want to tell you that the Afghanistan problem was not created by us; we inherited it. And we have to tackle this problem in accordance with the principles of national honor, world peace, and the security of mankind. We want our Afghan refugee brothers and sisters to return to their homes in honor, safety, and peace. We will continue our efforts in this area, but, surely, you would not want these helpless and oppressed Afghan refugees to be pushed back into their country without an honorable settlement. Taking into account this situation, our enemies have tried to create tension between Afghan refugees and local residents. In recent days, bombings were carried out in many of our cities in which innocent Pakistanis were martyred. These bomb blasts are a result of a conspiracy, and foreign agents are responsible. I know that you are aware of the conspiracy of our enemies.

The Soviet Union has a primary role to play in the solution of the Afghanistan issue. The Soviet Union is a superpower, and its responsibilities are equally big. I hope that the Soviet leaders will play their proper role in the interest of regional and world peace, because the issue can never be solved without the Soviet Union.

My dear countrymen! We want friendship with all nations. We want friendship, but as an independent and sovereign nation. Recently, the old weapon of the nuclear issue was once again used against us in connection with U.S. aid. Our enemies want us to fight with our friends, but we are confident that our enemies will not succeed in their designs. We are a peaceful nation, and we want peace and security all over the world.

Our nuclear program is solely for peaceful purposes. It is wrong to use foreign aid as a means to apply pressure. We can never allow this. Our friends are more dear to us than the aid, just as our independence and sovereignty is dear to us. Let the Pakistani nation be assured that the present government, God willing, will not damage the nation's independence.

I would like to make an important announcement on this occasion. This is an announcement as well as a warning. It is an announcement for those who love independence, and it is a warning for those who want to destroy the peace and tranquillity of this God-given state. My dear countrymen, unfortunately, the law and order situation in the country for some time has taken a turn that causes anxiety and concern for patriotic citizens. Today, on the occasion of independence day celebrations, I would like to categorically announce that the government has decided to take stern steps in this regard.

I would not like for an emergency to be imposed in the country and for people deprived of their basic rights. However, saboteurs must not be given a free hand. Lives of innocent people are endangered. We have decided to take stern steps against terrorism. Provincial governments have been given clear-cut directions in this regard. Recently, we formulated a new law providing immediate judicial proceedings against terrorism. Special courts are being set up, and other steps are also being taken. We are determined not to make any concession to terrorists.

My dear countrymen, you have given your time to me. You are attentively listening to my submissions. All these are aimed at presenting an overall picture of the current situation to enable you to decide on the most important requirement of the time. I have told you in the past, on a number of occasions, that Pakistan's future is linked with the endurance of democracy. I, my colleagues, and my party — the Pakistan Muslim League — have firm faith in the democratic and political process. We believe that this country's future is tied to democracy. No single individual, party, or group can have a monopoly over this country. This country belongs to all of us. All politicians, political parties, and the 100 million people will have to work together to strengthen and stabilize the process of democracy in Pakistan.

You are all aware of the situation emerging in our region and in the vicinity of Pakistan. All political parties are also aware of it. Under the circumstances, it is all the more important to strengthen the democratic process in the country on the basis of our respective parties [as heard], keeping ourselves aloof from party affiliations. Elections are an indispensable part of the democratic process. But under the law and Constitution, elections have an objective, and the time of elections is also (fixed). We have come to power through a democratic, political, and electoral process. God willing, we will continue this process at any cost. Elections will surely be held, and all parties will be absolutely free to take part in these elections within the framework of law.

My dear countrymen, while working for the continuation of the political and democratic process in the country and to strengthen these democratic values, what we need most is to create unity and discipline in the ranks of the nation. This will ensure the safety and security of Pakistan. What is needed now is to nurture the spirit of unity and discipline in the ranks of the nation itself. Our leader also taught us this lesson. Unity, discipline, and firm belief — these are the principles which led us to success in achieving our freedom, and the solution to our present difficulties lies in these three principles.

Remember, those who are poisoning our thoughts with provincialism, sectarianism, and protection of self-interest cannot be our friends. Is there anyone in the whole country who can say that the formation of Pakistan was the result of the efforts of a resident of one province only? Similarly, no one can say that Pakistan was formed by one sect of Muslims. No, all sects of Muslims sacrificed their lives and property to establish Pakistan. These sacrifices were not made selfishly, but for all Muslims. In this context, the movement of Pakistan is a history of the eternal spirit of sacrifice — unmatched by any other movement. So, I request you refrain from provincialism, sectarianism, and selfishness, whose sole purpose is to pave the way for antinational

objectives by spreading chaos in the country. Those who talk in such a fashion are not friends of Pakistan, but enemies. [passage omitted — Junejo calls for people to emulate Jinnah's ideals and work for the country]

Soviet Union Greet Leaders on National Day
BK140524 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 14 Aug 87

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Council of Ministers, and the heads of state and government of several other countries, have sent greetings messages to President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo. The Soviet Presidium, in its message, said: We hope that the good-neighborly and mutually beneficial relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union will grow further to serve the cause of regional peace and international security.

Cabinet Discusses Recent 'Subversive Activities'
BK121536 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 12 Aug 87

[Excerpt] The federal cabinet at its meeting today in Rawalpindi reviewed the law and order situation and took serious notice of the recent subversive activities in the country. Prime Minister

Mohammad Khan Junejo presided over the meeting. The cabinet directed the appropriate agencies to further strengthen their control and surveillance activities. The meeting also reviewed the steps being taken to maintain communal harmony during the coming Muslim religious occasions.

The cabinet also approved increasing maximum and minimum fines and sentences for various crimes under the Pakistan Penal Code, and approved an amendment to the second schedule of the criminal procedure code. [passage omitted]

6 Policemen Reportedly Injured in Mardan Clashes
BK130408 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 13 Aug 87

[Text] In Pakistan, police clashed with a rioting mob in Mardan town yesterday. The mob was protesting against Tuesday's [11 August] bomb blasts. According to agency reports, the death toll has risen to 18. A total strike was observed in Mardan to mourn the dead. The Pakistan People's Party has alleged that five protesters were injured in the police firing. Police, however, said at least six policemen were injured in the clash. Dozens of cars, motorcycles, and other vehicles were damaged or stolen during the riots.